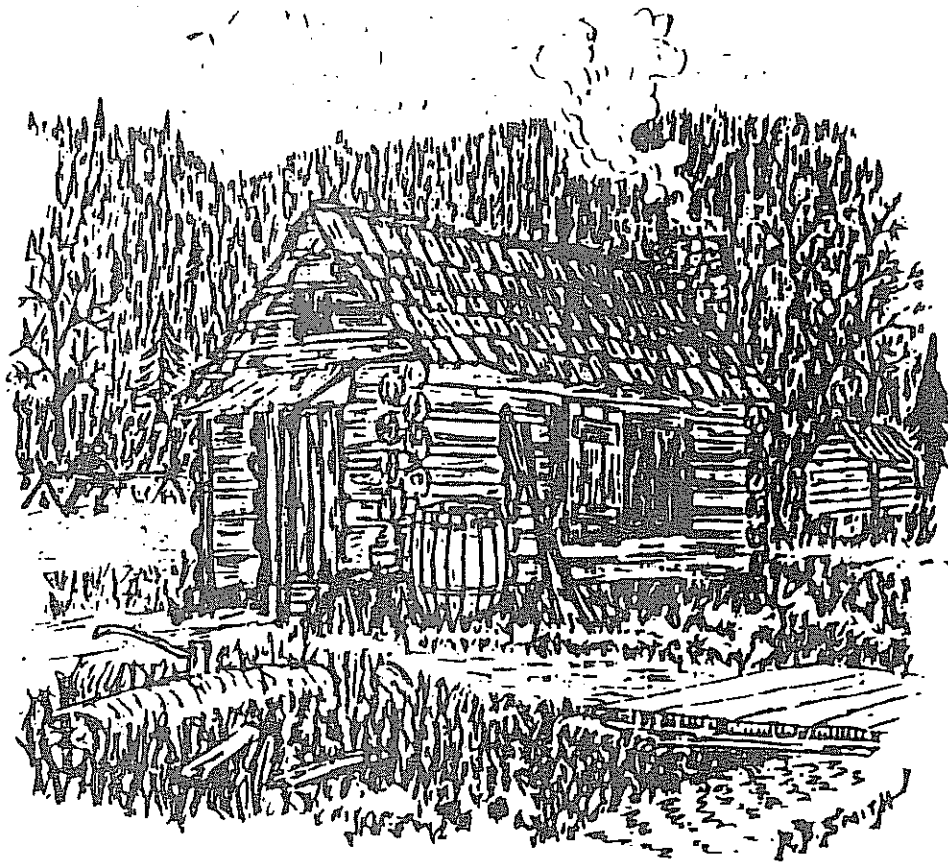


# HACKERS CREEK JOURNAL

Vol. X

Issue 1



Published by  
Hackers Creek Pioneer Descendants  
A Historical & Genealogical Society of Central, W.V.  
Organized in 1982



## MEMBERSHIP:

"Membership shall be open to anyone who has an interest in the history and/or genealogy of the Hacker's Creek area . . . Hacker's Creek is defined as that area included in the watershed drained by said stream." (Includes Lewis County and adjoining areas of West Virginia.) We now have over 300 members.

Membership dues begin Oct. 1 and are effective through Sep. 30 of the following year.

\$20.00 for a single or family membership (entitled to one copy of each quarterly) HACKER'S CREEK JOURNAL

If interested in becoming a member of H. C. P. D., photocopy this page and return completed form shown here. Use reverse side for listing West Virginia families you seek.

I/We hereby apply for membership in The Hacker's Creek Pioneer Descendants.

Make checks payable to: Hacker's Creek Pioneers Descendants

Mail to: Hacker's Creek Pioneer Descendants

P.O. Box 37

Jane Lew, W.V. 26378

HCPD  
LIBRARY

Miss \_\_\_\_\_

Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. \_\_\_\_\_

Surname

Given

Middle

Spouse

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street

City

State

Zip Code

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

(area code) number

I am descended or interested in what families. \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Membership, \$20.00 per fiscal year. (Four quarterly copies of publications)

( ) New Member ( ) Renewal

## HACKER'S CREEK PIONEER DESCENDANTS

PRESIDENT Maurice Allman  
Route 2, Box 2640  
Philippi, WV 26416  
304-457-4170

VICE PRES. Robert B. Smith  
ASST. ED. P.O. Box 139  
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Clarksburg, WV 26301  
304-623-4609

ACTING Edward Allman  
TREASURER 320 Milford St.  
Clarksburg, WV 26301  
304-622-9765

## ANNUAL GATHERING

We have an annual meeting of members during the month of August of each year. Come and join us and learn about the pioneers. Bring your geneological materials, pictures, and mementoes and spend a glorious weekend with your cousins.

LIBRARIAN Irma J. Curtis  
Route 3, Box 106A  
Weston, WV 26452  
304-269-5002

CORRESPON Raydine Teicheira  
COMMITTEE P.O. Box 37  
CHAIRMAN Jane Lew, WV 26378  
304-884-7933

EXEC/COMM Barbara McCarty  
PAST/PRES P.O. Box 33P  
Jane Lew, WV 26378  
304-884-7032

CEMETERY Matha Byrd  
RECORDS 899 Fleming Ave.  
CHAIRMAN Fairmont, WV 26554  
304-363-8925



<u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
LETTER FROM THE EDITOR	1
NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT	2
BY-LAWS OF HACKER'S CREEK PIONEER DESCENDANTS	3
HCPD GATHERING ATTENDEES	10
REV. JOHN DAVIS by SUSIE D. NICHOLSON	10
OUR MOUNTAIN HERITAGE-RULES FOR FARMING	11
BORDER SETTLERS NOW AVAILABLE by DORIS POINSETT	11
FAIRVIEW SCHOOL by MAURICE L. ALLMAN	12
POTS, PANS RATTLE -PEARL HARBOR ATTACK	13
SO YOU'RE A FAMILY RESEARCHER	14
THE GIBSON AND RELATED FAMILIES by PENNY & O.D.LINGER	14
ABSTRACTS FROM LEWIS COUNTY MINUTE BOOK - 1918	15
THE JACKSON INFLUENCE by LINDA BRAKE MYERS	21
HARDESTY CORRECTED BY STRANGE HALL by ROBERT B. SMITH	30
THE GERMAN ORIGINS OF HENRY FLESHER by DAVID ARMSTRONG	32
MILITIA FROM HACKER'S CREEK AREA IN DUNSMORES WAR - 1774 by EARL D. BOSLEY	36
HINKLE'S FORT IN PENDELTON COUNTY , WEST VIRGINIA by ELSIE BYRD BOGGS	37
HARRISON COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA, DEATH RECORDS 1853-1903	39
THE LIFE AND TIMES OF JOHN THEODORE SCHIEFER by WILLIAM FOSTER HAYES III	41
QUERIES	49
PUBLICATIONS AND MATERIALS FOR SALE	53



3 January 1992

Hello Cousins -

Happy New Year! Here it is, 1992, and the first issue for the new year is just going out. There's a couple of reasons for that. First, the last issue didn't get printed on time because, Franklin Press, our printer was in the midst of a move and took some time getting it printed. Secondly, I was moving; and, thirdly, Thanksgiving, Christmas, etc. But, we're back on schedule now. So. . . you have till February 15 to get your queries in for the next issue.

We have many irons in the fire at HCPD headquarters.

Maurice is working diligently to secure the rest of the funding to finish the renovation of the Weston Colored School so we can make the move. I did a spot on Channel 5 TV in Clarksburg about the library (we have two new members as result). Chuck and others are presenting programs to organizations all over Lewis and Harrison counties in an effort to raise the necessary monies for the endowment fund. (If you haven't donated yet, please do; any amount will help - \$5, \$10, \$20. . . . no amount is too small or too large. We really need your help.)

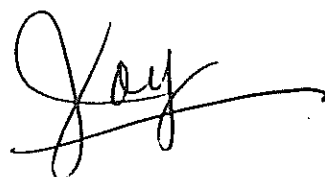
Irma is busy cataloguing a new batch of books purchased by HCPD with book budget funds. Ed Allman is capably filling the treasurer's job and working on family group sheets of several families for our library files. Nancy is doing her job and working with Linda on the Jackson-Brake book. Matha will have Cemetery Book II ready for publication before summer.

And, Raydine, Barbara McCarty and I are working with Bill Hayes to get a pictorial history book of Lewis County together. Some of you have submitted pictures for possible inclusion in the book. Now is the time for all of you who said, "I'll do it tomorrow" to quit putting it off and turn in your pictures. We're looking for pictures of anyone from or in Lewis County or any place in Lewis County. Don't send originals and don't send photocopies. Take them to K Mart or Wal Mart and have copies made. That's the least expensive way to go unless you have equipment to copy them yourself.

Life at Pickle Street is great! How wonderful to be back home! Since the last Journal we've painted and papered 10 rooms and have only two left to do. Come March it's time for the outside work.

In this issue we have some stories by some new submitters. Thanks, David and Linda, for your good works. Anyone who'd like to submit a story for publication is welcome to do so. Want to see your family name in the Journal? Submit a story.

Take care - and watch for annual meeting info in the next issue.



## Hacker's Creek Pioneer Descendants

P.O. Box 37, Jane Lew, WV 26378

NOTES FROM THE HCPD PRESIDENT

December 1991

NOVEMBER 4, 1991, WAS A DOUBLE HEADER FOR HCPD. WE BEGAN WORK ON OUR LIBRARY THAT DAY AND THAT EVENING BILL HAYES MET WITH JOY, IRMA, BARBARA, RAYDINE, BOB SMITH & THE PRESIDENT TO START WORK ON OUR PICTURE BOOK.

THE HCPD LIBRARY HAS A NEW ROOF, ROOF VENT, REPAIRED FACIA, SOFFITS, AND PAINTED, 12 INCHES OF INSULATION IN THE ATIC: AND THE WINDOWS ARE BEING REPAIRED AND PAINTED ON THE OUTSIDE. ALL OF THIS IS PHASE I.

HCPD CELEBRATED A "BEGINNING" ALONG WITH TV AND RADIO COVERAGE AND WEEKLY AND DAILY NEWS PAPERS WITH LARGE PHOTOS ON NOVEMBER 4. THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, HIS ASSISTANT, LOCAL SCHOOL LIBRARIAN, AND COUNTY LIBRARIAN AND BOARD MEMBER, BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS AND OTHERS HELPED REPRESENT LOCAL INTERESTS. Barbara, Raydine, and Joy provided refreshments.

A \$6,500.00 GRANT FROM THE WEST VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT BOARDS HELPED HCPD GET STARTED ON THE REPAIR WORK.

KENNETH STALNAKER IS SERVING AS OUR CONSTRUCTION ADVISOR AND HE CHECKS ON THE REPAIR WORK BEING DONE. V. PRES. BOB SMITH, TREASURER ED ALLMAN AND THE PRESIDENT FREQUENTLY "LOOK IN" ON THE WORK AND CONSULT WITH THE KENNETH AND THE CONTRACTOR.

BILL HAYES, FROM AWAY OUT WEST IN CALIFORNIA SENT THE FIRST THANK YOU CARD TO BE PRESENTED ALONG WITH OTHER THANK YOU CARDS TO THE EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS CLUBS OF BERLIN AND HODGESVILLE. ITS NOT TOO LATE TO SEND TO ME YOUR CARDS OF APPRECIATION. IF WE COUNT THE BRICKS AND MORTAR AND LABOR THAT THESE TWO CLUBS PAID FOR TO PROMOTE AND ADVANCE THE EFFORTS OF HCPD, THAT AMOUNT OF MONEY WOULD MAKE A DENT IN OUR BANK ACCOUNT.

ANY AMOUNT OF MONEY FROM YOU, YOUR FAMILY, RELATIVES, FRIENDS, YOUR LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS THAT YOU KNOW OF WILL HELP US REACH THE GOAL OF OUR ENDOWMENT FUND. WITH A FEW DOLLARS FROM ALL MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF HCPD WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO REACH OUR GOAL OF AT LEAST \$30,000.00.

RETIRED CIRCUIT JUDGE AND HCPD MEMBER, WILLIAM L. "LES" FURY HAS AN APPOINTMENT WITH A BANK IN CLARKSBURG AND THEIR ATTORNEYS ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1991, 10:30 a.m., FOR HCPD TO MEET AND DISCUSS DETAILS FOR OUR ENDOWMENT FUND.

THE HCPD PRESIDENT HELPED CELEBRATE THE DEDICATION OF A NEW LIBRARY IN PHILIPPI, WV, DECEMBER 1, 1991, 2:30 p.m. THE WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARY COMMISSION DIRECTOR, FREDERIC J. GLAZER WAS THE MAIN SPEAKER. HE ANNOUNCED THAT IN A FEW MONTHS AN EDUCATION SATELLITE SYSTEM WILL BE INSTALLED AT THE NEW LIBRARY. HE SAID THAT THROUGH THIS SATELLITE SYSTEM, THIS WILL BE A FULL TIME EDUCATIONAL LIBRARY WHERE PEOPLE WILL NOT HAVE TO LEAVE HOME TO GET THE COURSES FOR VARIOUS DEGREES.

*Maurice L. Allman,  
Pres.*



BY-LAWS  
of  
HACKER'S CREEK PIONEER DESCENDANTS  
P.O. Box 37  
Jane Lew, W. Va. 26378

ARTICLE I - Name.

The name of this Society shall be HACKER'S CREEK PIONEER DESCENDANTS.

ARTICLE II - Purpose.

Section 1. The purpose of this Society shall be to:

Assist in the development and preservation of the history and genealogy of the Hacker's Creek area of West Virginia.

Exchange and publish historical and genealogical information about the said area.

Sponsor special projects, workshops and/or meetings relating to the history and genealogy of said area.

Said organization is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, religious or scientific purposes under section 501(c)(3) of the Code.

No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth hereof.

No substantial part of the activities of the association shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Code, or by an organization contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2)

of the Code.

ARTICLE III - Official Publication.

The Society shall issue a serial publication under the name THE HACKER'S CREEK JOURNAL.

ARTICLE IV - Membership.

Section 1. Membership shall be open to anyone who has an interest in the history and/or genealogy of the Hacker's Creek area.

Hacker's Creek is defined as that area included in the watershed drained by said stream.

Section 2. Membership dues shall be proposed by the Executive Committee and voted on at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE V - Government.

Section 1. The governing body shall be an Executive Committee comprising the six officers identified in Section 6 of this Article and the immediate Past-President, or if necessary, another Representative elected by the membership to provide a seventh member of the Executive Committee. The six officers, and, if necessary, the Representative to the Executive Committee, shall be elected by the members at the Annual Meeting and shall serve for two years following election.

Section 2. All officers shall be paid-up members of the Society.

Section 3. Newly elected officers shall be seated at the end of the Annual Meeting.

Section 4. The Executive Committee shall:

Transact the affairs of the Society;  
Report on proposed policy changes and new projects;  
Keep the membership informed of activities affecting the Society.

Section 5. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting. Additional meetings may be called by the President, or by a majority of the Executive Committee.

Section 6. Duties of Officers:

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Section 6. Duties of Officers:

## a) The President shall

Preside at all meetings of the Society and of the Executive Committee;  
Appoint all Committees and be an ex-officio member of them except the Audit and Nominating Committees.

## b) The Vice-President shall

Assist the President in organizational duties;  
Perform the duties of the President in the absence of, or inability of the President to serve;  
Serve as Chairman of the Reunion Committee.

## c) The Secretary shall

Record the minutes of meetings of the general membership and of the Executive Committee and preserve minutes and reports;  
Be responsible for the correspondence of the Society;  
Maintain mailing list of all members of the Society;  
Serve as a member of the Reunion Committee;  
Keep appropriate records and, with the treasurer, file the necessary forms with the appropriate District Director of the Internal Revenue Service and the State of West Virginia to maintain the Society's tax-exempt and not-for-profit status.

## d) The Treasurer shall

Collect and record all dues and funds received by the Society;  
Pay all bills belonging to the Society;  
Serve as a member of the Reunion Committee;  
Draft a budget to be discussed and/or modified and adopted at the Annual Meeting;  
Regulate expenditures in accordance with the budget;  
Give a financial report at Executive Committee meetings and an Annual Report at the Annual Meeting;  
Keep appropriate records and, with the secretary, file the necessary forms with the appropriate District Director of the Internal Revenue Service and the State of West Virginia to maintain the Society's tax-exempt and not-for-profit status.

## e) The Archivist/Librarian shall

Be responsible for filing and preserving  
historical and genealogical material  
gathered by or contributed to the Society.

## f) The Editor shall

Serve as Editor-in-chief of the Society's  
publication, The Hacker's Creek Journal;  
Serve as Editor-in-chief of special publica-  
tions undertaken by the Society pursuant  
to direction of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI - Meetings.

There shall be an Annual Meeting of members held  
at a place and date determined by the Reunion  
Committee.

ARTICLE VII - Fiscal Year.

The fiscal year shall begin October 1.

ARTICLE VIII - Revision of the By-Laws.

Amendment and/or revision of the By-Laws may  
take place as follows:

- 1) The proposed amendment or revision shall be  
submitted in writing to the President prior  
to March 1;
- 2) The proposal shall be acted upon by the  
Executive Committee in written ballot by  
May 1;
- 3) The proposal shall be published in The  
Hacker's Creek Journal in its Summer issue  
together with the Executive Committee action  
on it;
- 4) The proposal shall be voted on at the next  
Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE IX - Standing Committees.

- a) The Reunion Committee shall make arrangements  
for and organize Reunion, including site,  
date, decorations, speakers, entertainment,  
housing and meals.

Site and date shall be announced in the

winter issue of The Hacker's Creek Journal. Reunion reservations shall be available to members in April preceeding the meeting.

- b) The Publicity Committee shall encourage publication of news relating to the activities, especially the Annual Meeting, of the Society. For this purpose, the Committee may supply information to appropriate daily and weekly newspapers serving the Central West Virginia area and other publications more specialized in genealogy and history.
- c) The Publications Committee shall issue the official Society journal known as THE HACKER'S CREEK JOURNAL, at a frequency dependent on availability of material and finances as approved by the Executive Committee.

The Committee may from time to time, investigate, prepare and issue special publications and offer them for sale.

- d) The Audit Committee shall be appointed by the President, and shall examine annually at the end of each year the Society's accounts held by the Secretary/Treasurer. The Committee shall consist of one member of the Executive Committee and two members of the Society. The Committee shall audit the records and report their findings in a signed report at the next Annual Meeting.
- e) The Special Projects Committee. From time to time, the Society may wish to undertake special projects consistent with the stated purposes of the Society. The President shall appoint members of the Society to investigate and propose projects for the approval of the members, and if approved, to carry out the project.

#### ARTICLE X - Elections.

Section 1. All officers shall be elected by a simple majority of votes cast at the Annual Meeting of the Society.

Section 2. A Nominating Committee of three or more members appointed by the President shall prepare a slate of candidates prior to the Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee may solicit recommendations for officers from the general membership. The

Nominating Committee must obtain consent of any member nominated for an office in the Society.

Section 3. Additional nominations may be made from the floor by any members of the Society at the Annual Meeting.

Section 4. Officers shall be installed in their respective offices at the close of the Annual Meeting. They then shall serve until their successors have been duly elected and installed into office.

Section 5. In cases of resignation or incapacity of any officer to serve, the vacancy may be filled by vote of the Executive Committee for the unexpired term of office.

ARTICLE XI - Dissolution.


Upon dissolution of the organization, the officers shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all liabilities of the association, dispose of the remaining assets of the organization to such organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable educational, religious, or scientific purposes which at the time qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Code.

Approved at the Annual Meeting September 30, 1984, by the general membership.

Amended at the Annual Meeting August 19, 1988, by the general membership and signed in executive session December 17, 1987.

Amended August 10, 1991 at the Annual Meeting by the general membership and signed in executive session December 10, 1991.

  
Maurice Allman, President

  
Nancy Jackson, Secretary

## HCPD GATHERING ATTENDEES ! !

If you were there August 1991 and were searching for data on GEORGE EAGLE  
OR  
WERE INQUIRING about REV. JOHN DAVIS who is buried at Broad Run here is  
help for you!

GEORGE EAGLE married in Pendleton County to Susannah Fleisher. The date is  
not given on the data I have, but perhaps you could check in Pendleton Co.

George Eagle was the son of Christian Eagle who left a will in Pendleton  
County naming 14 children. This Christian Eagle was a brother to Benjamin  
Eagle who also lived in Lewis County in 1850 and left a will in Upshur County  
dated 22 Dec. 1848. Both the Christian mentioned above, and Benjamin were  
sons of Christian Eagle of Washington County, Maryland.

\*\*\*\*\*

REV. JOHN DAVIS  
WHO IS BURIED AT BROAD RUN CEMETERY

This John Davis was minister of the Salem Seventh Day Baptist Church for many  
years. His first wife, Marvel Maxson died and is buried in Greene County, Ohio  
1813. Rev. John came back to West Virginia and married 2nd. to Margaret Kelso.

Benjamin P. Shannon married 2nd. 4 Oct. 1835 in Lewis Co. by Rev. John Davis  
to Mary Kelso Brown, daughter of Margaret Kelso, and widow of Robert Brown whom  
she had married in Harrison Co. in 1804.

Benjamin and Mary Shannon took care of Rev. John and Margaret Davis in their  
later years. The 1840 Census of Revolutionary War Pensioners shows John Davis  
living in the home of Benjamin P. Shannon. I do not know if Margaret Kelso  
had previously been married when she married Rev. John Davis in Harrison County  
21 August 1814.

Benjamin Shannon registered Margaret Davis' death in Lewis County 10 Feb. 1855,  
listing her parents as John and Prudence, not giving the surname. He called  
himself Margaret's son-in-law.

May I refer you to HACKER'S CREEK JOURNAL, Vol. VIII, Issue I, page 48, second  
Column, beginning with "Mrs. Stella Davis". This list of births refers to Levi  
Sutton who married SARAH BROWN, (daughter of Robert Brown & Mary Kelso). I do  
not know how the Bennetts fit into this family, nor do I know who Prudence  
Brown was. It is most likely that they all were related somehow. The data which  
I have says that the Levi Sutton family went to Iowa.

Please note that an incorrect birth date is given for Rev. John Davis. Rev.  
John Davis was born 1 May 1754 to Thomas William Davis and Tacy Crandall in  
Monmouth County, New Jersey.

If you wish more data on this family group please refer to DAVIS, THE SETTLERS  
OF SALEM, Now in Publication by the Salem Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Sincerely,

Susie D. Nicholson, 4344 Hohman Circle, Akron, OH 44319  
phone 644-4108 (216)



OUR MOUNTAIN HERITAGE - RULES FOR FARMING

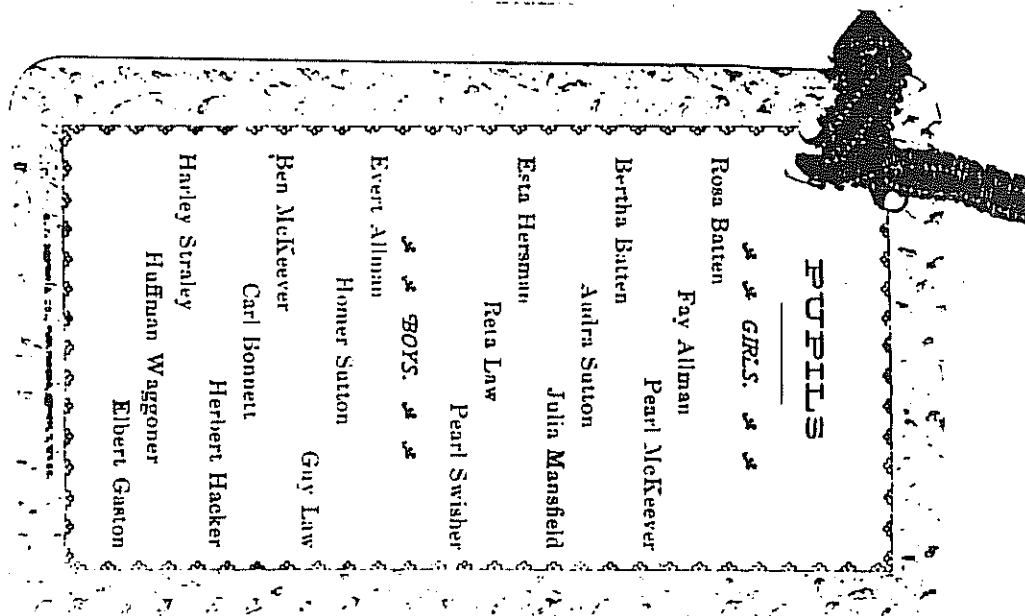
Plant potatoes on Good Friday.  
What grows above the ground should be planted in the new moon, below, in the old of the moon.  
Plant corn when the white-oak leaves are the size of squirrels' ears.  
When you plant peach seeds, name them after women who have borne many children, and the trees will be fruitful.  
Peppers will grow better when planted by a red-headed woman.  
The number of rows on an ear of corn is always even.  
Set onions in the old moon, and they will grow down; in the light of the moon, and they will grow out of the ground.  
Sow grass seed in the light of the moon.  
Pick apples in the dark of the moon and the bruised places will dry up; in the light of the moon, and they will rot.  
There will be no fruit when apple blossoms do not fall under the tree.  
If you plant climbing beans when the corner of the moon is down, the beans will crawl on the ground instead of climbing the pole.  
To have good beets, let a growing person sow the seeds.  
Sow early cabbage seeds on St. Patrick's Day.  
Plant radishes in the old of the moon.  
When greenbriers grow, the land is too poor to sprout black-eyed peas.  
Sow turnips between sundown and dark and you will never fail of a crop.  
Pork killed in the light of the moon will turn to grease.  
Pork killed in the old of the moon will shrink in the skillet.  
If you milk a cow on the ground, she will go dry.  
Put your hand in the nest of a turkey, and it will not lay more eggs there.

- Anonymous  
Found in the attic of an old  
West Virginia home.

---

BORDER SETTLERS Now Available

THE BORDER SETTLERS OF NORTHWESTERN VIRGINIA, FROM 1768 TO 1795 Embracing the Life of Jesse Hughes and Other Noted Scouts of the Great Woods of the Trans-Allegheny by Lucullus V. McWhorter, a "must" for researchers in central West Virginia and, particularly, Lewis County, is available as a reprint for \$34.00 + \$2.50 P&H from Clearfield Co., 200 East Eager St., Baltimore, MD 21202. This reprint is not indexed; but, an index may be purchased from our own Doris Poinsett, 5920 31st Pl NW, Washington, DC 20015 for \$4.00 ppd.



SUBMITTED BY  
MAURICE L. ALLMAN

## "Pots, Pans Rattle"

# Pearl Harbor Attack Interrupts Lewis County Native's Breakfast

A Lewis County native was eating breakfast at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, on that sunny morning of December 7, 1941, when "an explosion caused the windows, and the pots and pans in the kitchen to rattle."

At that point, George W. Waggoner of 1448 Kent Road, Baltimore, Md., said, "Someone came in the dining hall and said the Marines are on maneuvers and then came a second explosion and the water fountain broke loose and window glass was breaking."

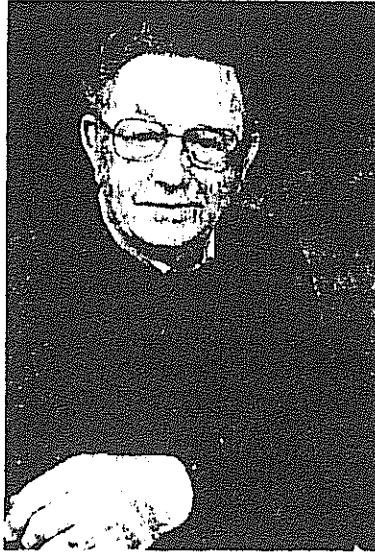
Waggoner, who was born on the Right Hand Fork of Freeman's Creek and who is probably the only Lewis County survivor of the sneak attack, said:

"I jumped up and went up two flights of stairs for my gun. The gun rack was locked. I started for the stairway. When I looked up I saw a Jap Zero headed straight for the barracks, strafing, and I jumped behind a cement post. I could hear the bullets ricocheting off the cement post.

"Finally I made my way to the supply room and got a rifle and a bandolier of ammunition and headed for a football field in back of the barracks and started firing at the Jap Zeros. No one was injured in my company during the bombing and strafing.

"After the attack was over we were sent to guard Wheeler Field for two nights, after that we were building gun positions around the island."

Waggoner recently was the 128th



person to receive the Pearl Harbor Commemorative Medal, which was recently authorized by Congress for all survivors (or their next-of-kin) of

the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. The presentation to Maryland survivors of the attack was made Sunday, Nov. 17, in the Chapel of the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md. The medal features a scene of the battleship Arizona burning on one side. President Franklin D. Roosevelt's phrase from his request to declare war is on the other side: "A date which will live in infamy."

Waggoner was born Jan. 17, 1922. In June 1941 he joined the army and went directly to Hawaii for basic training. After finishing basic training he was assigned to Company "E", 19th Infantry. In September 1941, the 24th Division was formed and the 19th Infantry became a part of the 24th Division, whose motto was "The First to Fight".

Waggoner's aunt, Orpha Waggoner, resides on the Right Hand Fork of Freeman's Creek.

WESTON DEMOCRAT

DEC 11, 1991

George is an HCPD member!

---

Hardesty Corrected by Strange Hall - cont.

Mr. Hall was in error in reference to Peter Bonnett being older than Lewis Bonnett. Lewis was born in 1762 and was two years older than Peter who was born in 1764. Phillip was the youngest and born in 1776.

SO YOU'RE A FAMILY RESEARCHER

When

1. You're in a library or over-grown cemetery.
2. You stop writing all the Jones's in the phone book.
3. You write a fellow researcher and don't say "Send me every thing you've got."
4. You send an S.A.S.E. for requested information.
5. You give credit due to a fellow researcher.
6. You can copy information as you find it, not as you wish it were, noting references.
7. You can accept data as history, anything that happened over 100 years ago.
8. You realize great Aunt Hattie's grandfather didn't know George Washington, CA 1850, but don't tell her.
9. You can chat with someone about places and dates and not mention Aunt Hattie.
10. You can attend a family reunion and accept all cousins and not try to label them twice removed later.
11. You realize it's your family and you've got to find out about them.
12. You never challenge someone else's family data, even tho you know differently.

Then you're a researcher.

- Anonymous

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THE GIBSON AND RELATED FAMILIES

THE GIBSON AND RELATED FAMILIES by Penny and O.D. Linder is now available for \$55.95. The family migrated to Harrison and Lewis County in 1815. Related families are the Jeffries, Smith, Crosby, Hall, Meek, Marsh, Peterson, Bennett, Lowther, Coburn, Hughes, Means, Henry, Burrell, Kemper, White and Matheny families. Other names in index to the book are Alkire, Davis, Hacker, Hardman, Hinzman, Jones, Linder, Starcher, Swisher, Watson, West and Wilson.

ABSTRACTS FROM LEWIS COUNTY MINUTE BOOK - 1819

Copied from WPA edition on microfilm, Colson Hall, WVU

October 1819

Page I

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At a court held for the county of Lewis on Monday the 4th day of October 1819 and in the 44th year of the commonwealth.

Present James Allen, Samuel Z Jones, Thomas Cunningham, and William Sims, Genl Justuis.

On motion of John Reger & others ordered that George Strader, Thomas Hacker, Jacob Wolfe, Joseph McCoy, Joel Martin & Abraham Reger or any three of them being first sworn do view and mark a way for a road from Flishersville (now Weston) by Hackers Creek through or near the Reger settlement to the county line at Stebbinsville and report to December court next according to law -

On motion of Daniel Barrot & others ordered that George Strader, Thomas Hacker, Jacob Wolfe, Joseph McCoy, Joel Martin & Abraham Reger or any three of them being first sworn do view and mark a way for a road from the highway near Christian Simons dewling house by or near John Regers and Martin Rooks to Buckhannon River at Sand Run Shoal and report to December court next according to law -

On motion of Samuel Tolbert ordered that Daniel Gould John Vincent Joseph McCoy & William Bennet or any three of them being first sworn do view and mark a way for a road from Aaron Goulds mill to the Forks of the west fork and report to December court next according to law -

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Page 2

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On motion of John Starcher ordered that said Starcher Thomas Hacker Samuel Bonnet Jonathan Hacker or any three of them being first sworn do veiw and mark a way for a road from John Hacker to the county line at the head of Jess Hughes Run by way of John Starcher & report to December court next according to law -

James Wells proceeded in court cridentials of his ordination and Regular standing as a minister of the gospel gave bond and security in the sum of \$15, 00,00 and took oath of fidelity to the commonwealth and hath obtained a testimonial to celebrate the rights of matrimony within this state. Ordered that Thomas Bland be appointed overseer of the road in the room of Peter Davis removed.

Ordered that Thomas Batton be appointed overseer of the road in the room of Casper Butcher removed -

The overseer of the poor of Lewis County agst Levi Maxwell

Upon a recognizance for the support of a bastard child charged to have been begotten by said Levi Maxwell on the body of Mary Butcher.

This day came as well the overseer of the poor by their attorney as the said Levi Maxwell who appeared in court in his proper place in discharge of his said recognizance and moved the court to quash the proceedings in said cause and adjud the following causes in support of his said motion to quash viz that the warrant in this cause for the apprehension of said defendant did not charge that the bastard child was likely to become chargeable to the county of Lewis.

That the written examination of the said Mary Butcher charging the defendant with having gotten her child of the said bastard child if any was taken is not filed among the papers & made part of the proceedings of this cause.

That there is a variance between the warrant & the recognizance in this cause is that the said warrant issued for the arrest of Levi Maxwell and the recognizance was entered into by Levi Maxwell adjude without deciding upon the other objections and that said warrant & proceedings there on be quashed and that the defendant go there of without delay & that he recover of the said overseers him sorts by him in his motion in this behalf suspended & from which diecission of the court the said overseer of the poor pray & appeal which is granted upon their giving bond & security in the penalty of 66 dollars which was accordingly to law.

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Page 5

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On motion of John Cose ordered that the order heretofore made directing the overseers of the poor to bind William Cose to George Flesher be reunited.

On motion of Jacob Schoolcraft ordered that the overseers of the poor bind Elias Schoolcraft aged one year and too months to said Schoolcraft.

Ordered that John G. Stringer be recommended to his excelency the Governor of this commonwealth as a fit person to fill the office of Ensign in Captain Camps Company of the 125 Redgement of Virginia Maletia

Whereas at a court held for Lewis County June term 1818 Samuel B. Byran was recommended to his exceleny the Governor of Virginia as a fit person to fill the office of Luitenant under Captain John F. Sigleton (Singleton?) of the 125th redgment of Virginia Malitia and whereas in the commission which came on for said Byrn was improperly it was ordered

that the said Samuel B. Byrn be again recommended to his excelency the Governor of this commonwealth as a fit person to fill the office of Luitenant under said Captain John F. Singleton of the 125th redgment of Virginia maletia

On motion of John Mitchel ordered that the road viewed and marked by said Mitchel, Thomas McCartney and George Duvall from the fork of the river above Abner Mitchels to intereseect the waggon road at H Camdens be established and that John Sprigg and Company and John Cunningham & his company do aid & assist in opening and keeping the same in repair.

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Page 6

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Ordered that John Waggoner be appointed overseer of the road in the room of Charles Fisher removed.

On motion of Assa (Asa) Squires ordered that that part of the road which lies in Jacob Riffles precinct from Saltlick to the forks of the road at the upper of Steels improvement be added to Elijah Squires precinct.

On motion of James Jordan ordered that he be appointed administrator of the estate of Anthony Jordan who being first sworn according to law entered into bond together with Joseph Lewis his security according to law in the sum of two hundred dollars conditioned for the said James, faithful administrator of said estate whereupon letters of administration are granted to the said James Kordan according to law.

Ordered that David Smith be appointed commissioner of the said renew for this county for the unseeing (ensuing) year whereupon the said David came into court and took the oaths prescribed by law and gave bond and security in the sum of one thousand dollars.

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Page 8

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October 1819

C \$2.25	Nicholas Gibson
A 2.50	vs
Con 63	Reuben Kenison

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\$5.35

Upon an attachment issued by a Justus of the peace which was returned executed by P. Lough constable in said county on 2 bearskins 1 old fiddle, 1 old great coat 1 old saddle 1 old saddle and blanket & some storegoods and the defendant being solemnly called came not. Therefore for

reasons appearing to the court it is considered by the court that the plaintiff recover against the defendant the sum of thirty nine dollars and 37 cents with interest from the 1st day of September 1819 and his costs by him about his attachment on that behalf and motion of the plaintiff it is further ordered that the sheriff make sale of the effects attached in this case and make return thse of to December court and on motion of the plaintiff by his attorney it is further ordered that William Casebott be summoned to appear a garnashee at the next court to answer whther he has any money or effects in his hands belonging to the deft -

Ordered that Joseph McCoy, John Mitchel, Assa Squires David W. Sleeth Edward Jackson Lewis Maxwell and Aaron Gould be appointed school commissioners for this county.

Moses Bennett presented in court an account of the commonwealth for summening witnesses on behalf of said commonwealth is John Seeder who was charged with a rape and also for summoning guards to secure said Seeder. Amounting to \$4.20 which was examined by the court and ordered to be certified to the auction of public accounts for settlement.

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Page 9

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Also Jonathan Yager produced a account agst same for arresting said Seeder & summoning men to aid in same amounting to \$6.33

Also an account for the services of sundry persons who were sumoned to aid in searching for and arresting said Seeder amounting \$28.50

Also Levi Maxwell produced an amount as same for arresting William Bosley who was charged with Bigamy for conveying said Bosley to county jail for 24 hours amounting to \$2.96 which are all ordered to be certified to the audition of Public accounts for settlement.

Also Levi Maxwell presented an statement of the services of Beney Coonrod & weede Huffman for guarding said Bosely one day each amounting to \$1.50 all of which were examined by the court and ordered to be certified to the auction of Public accounts for settlement.

Ordered that court be now adjourned till tomorrow morning 9 oclock.

Jas Allen

Present John Mitchel, John Haymond, James Allen & George Bush Genl Justuis

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Page 33 &amp; 34

At a court of oyer and termine called and held at the courthouse of Lewis County on the 4th day of November 1819. Present William Hacker, William Sims, George Bush, Edward Jackson, & David Smith commonwealth justuis for the county for the examination and trial of Lucy a black woman and slave belonging to Thomas Batton who stands charged by the inquest of the coroner of said County with having feloneusly killing and murdered a male colored infant child.

The prisoner being set to the bar in custody of the sheriff of said County & being arranged plead not guilty to the charge whereupon several witness being sworn and examined the attorney for the commonwealth and the prisoner by her attorney being fully heard the court is of the opinion that the said jury a black woman and slave as a forsaide belonging to the said Thomas Batton is guilty of felonously killing and murdering the infant as charged in the inquest whereupon it is being demanded of her whether she had or knew any thing why the court should not pronounce her final judgment against her for the crime of which she is now convicted & she by her counsel replied she had or knew nothing else that what is contained in the record & proceedings of this court.

It is therefore considered by the court that she the said Lucy be by the sheriff of this county hanged by the neck on the 14th day of February next at the town of Flandersville (Weston) between the hour of 12 & 4 oclock until she be dead whereupon the court proceedings to assess & certify the value of said Lucy do order that the said Lucy is of the value of \$500 dollars & it is ordered that the said value be certified to the auditor of Publick accounts for payment whereupon the said Lucy is remanded to jail.

Ordered that court be now adjourned without day.

Wm Hacker

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Page 50  
Dec 6th, 1819

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John Mitchel, James Allen & George Bush personally appeared in court & made oath. It is therefore ordered that the above affidavit be attached to the said affidavit of Joseph Wilson & certified there to the secretary of the war department in the room of the said discharge.

Ordered that John Brannon overseer of the road from Aaron Holbert to Benjamin Riddles & that all the hand on said road aid in keeping the same in repair.

Ordered that Benjamin Riddle be overseer of the road from said Riddles to the mouth of the first big river on seeding creek & up road from Cedar creek to the road up the

river & that the hands on the river from sd Riddles to William Hackers & him in keeping the same in repair.

That George G. Goff be overseer of the road from the mouth of the first big run on Leading creek up said creek to the Hughes river road & the hands on Leading creek up to said Hughes river road and him in keeping the same in repair.

That Solomn B. Townsend be overseer of the road from Stuarts creek to the Sand Fork on the lower side of the Sand Fork and in keeping the same in repair.

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Page 61

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On motion of John Green ordered that Jacob Shock, Sam Dobins & Martin Delaney will mark a way for a road from the fork of the river between Shocks and said Greens up said creek to the mouth of Frames fork there up said fork to the county line & report to court according to law.

Ordered that Jacob Wolfe be overseer of the highway in the room of Wm Cookman removed.

Ordered that the landholders through which a road was lately marked from John Hackers to the head of Jess's run be sum to appear at May court next to show cause if any they can why said road shall not be established on the highway.

On motion of Jacob McMahan ordered that he be appointed guardian to Lucinda Butcher and Benjamin Butcher children and infant heirs of Nicholas Butcher deceased whereupon the said Jacob together with George Fisher & Micheal Haverty his securities entered into bond in the sum of 12.00 conditioned as the law to wits.

Ordered that Saml Brown be surveyor of the highway in the room of James Brown removed.

Ordered that the claimants of land through which a road has been marked from Weston to Benj Coonrod be sum to attend at May court next to show cause if any they can why said road shall not be established as the highway.

Ordered that Jacob Lorentz, Joseh, R. W. Collins & John Mitchell be appointed commissioners to prepare and submit a plan for a courthouse for this county a majority where of may act who submitted a plan which was approved & adopted.

On motion of James Allen ordered that John Harrow, Abram Reger Joel Martin & John Rorbough or any three of them being first sworn view and mark way for a road from Abram Regers to intersect the Teter road near the county line & report to court according to law.

## THE JACKSON INFLUENCE

No family history would be complete with out the influence of the allied families. Our BRAKE legacy is no exception. The impress of the progenitors of the Jackson children who married into our family along with that of the GERMAN BARON JACOB BRAKE and his INDIAN WIFE produced an impressive family of doctors, lawyers, and ministers as well as military and civic leaders.

Many accounts have been written about the early life and courtship of JOHN JACKSON and ELIZABETH CUMMINS. Although quite colorful and exciting most of these have been discredited by descendants of the couple.

Noted authors agree that John Jackson was born in Coleraine, Londonderry, northern Ireland around 1719 of Scotch Irish parents.<sup>1</sup> He is described as being a "spare diminutive man, quiet, determined, and courageous"(Shoop 155). John was about 10 years old when his father(also named John) moved the family to London. Within two years his father died. His mother, Katherine McKinley Jackson continued to live in London with her 3 sons. Hu Maxwell author of History of Randolph County WV tells us "that after arriving at manhood, he(John) contracted with a gentleman emigrating to Maryland to go with him and build him a house, with all the material prepared in London and shipped to Maryland. In accordance with this arrangement, John Jackson went to Maryland, in the year 1748 and settled in Cecil County and there erected the house"(page 414).

Elizabeth Cummins was born in London, England on June 8, 1729. "She was a stately blonde nearly six feet in statue and almost perfect in form and feature. She was well educated and possessed a resolute active mind"(Davis 1).

Elizabeth and her sister were orphaned and raised by a maiden aunt. Her sister married and emigrated to New York. Elizabeth desired to accompany her sister to America, but she agreed to remain in London and care for her aunt until her death. When the aunt died 3 years later she left Elizabeth a few heirlooms, some linens and silver spoons and 1000 lbs. in English gold coins.

After receiving her inheritance, Elizabeth left England for New York in search of her sister. Arriving there she found that the entire family had died the year before of yellow fever. From New York she journeyed to Cecil County, Maryland where she met friends from London with whom she lived until her marriage. Some authors tell us that she and John were aboard the same ship heading for America, so, perhaps she knew that he, too, was in Maryland.

John and Elizabeth were married in Cecil County in 1755. Here, their first child, George, was born, "the day before his mother's twenty-eighth birthday"(Davis 1).<sup>2</sup> From Maryland, they moved to Virginia making their home on Goose Creek, "a tributary of the Potomic River" and Little River which flows into Goose Creek in Loudin County near Leesburg, VA"(Davis 2). They stayed only a year before moving over the mountains to the South Branch valley. Elizabeth Cummins Jackson once stated to her grandson, John George Jackson, that they "settled there in a fort four years at George Wilson's on Mill Creek"(Davis 2). Edward and John Jackson Jr. were born here.

Their third home would be the cabin Elizabeth and John would build together. It was located three miles from the South Branch of the Potomic on Lost River Road south of Moorefield, (W)VA. They neighbored often with the Brake family who lived a few miles farther south. Their children George and Mary Elizabeth were destined to marry Elizabeth and Abraham Brake children of Baron John Brake. They raised large families. Chimney stones

in the form of a marker are all that remain today of the cabin home where four more of the Jackson children were born.

As it was with many of the settlers of the day, the Jacksons were "squatters" for they did not own the land they lived on. So, in 1770, in search of more fertile land, John moved his family to Pendleton County. They stayed here only one year before taking the Indian trail west over of the Alleghany Mountains to the wilderness in western Virginia that is now Upshur County, West Virginia. No doubt they were joined by others of the region for they did not dare travel alone. John settled where the "Sycamore tree" home of the Pringles stood. The Pringles were brothers who had deserted from Fort Pitt, PA in 1761 and lived in this wilderness in the hollow of a Sycamore tree for 3 years. So taken with this beautiful country they returned to the South Branch with their stories and encouraged the settlers to move west. Standing today is the third generation of the "Pringle Tree" located at the head of Turkey Run where it empties into the Buckhannon River a few miles north of Buchhannon, Upshur County, WV. This area was later know as "the Pringle Tree community".

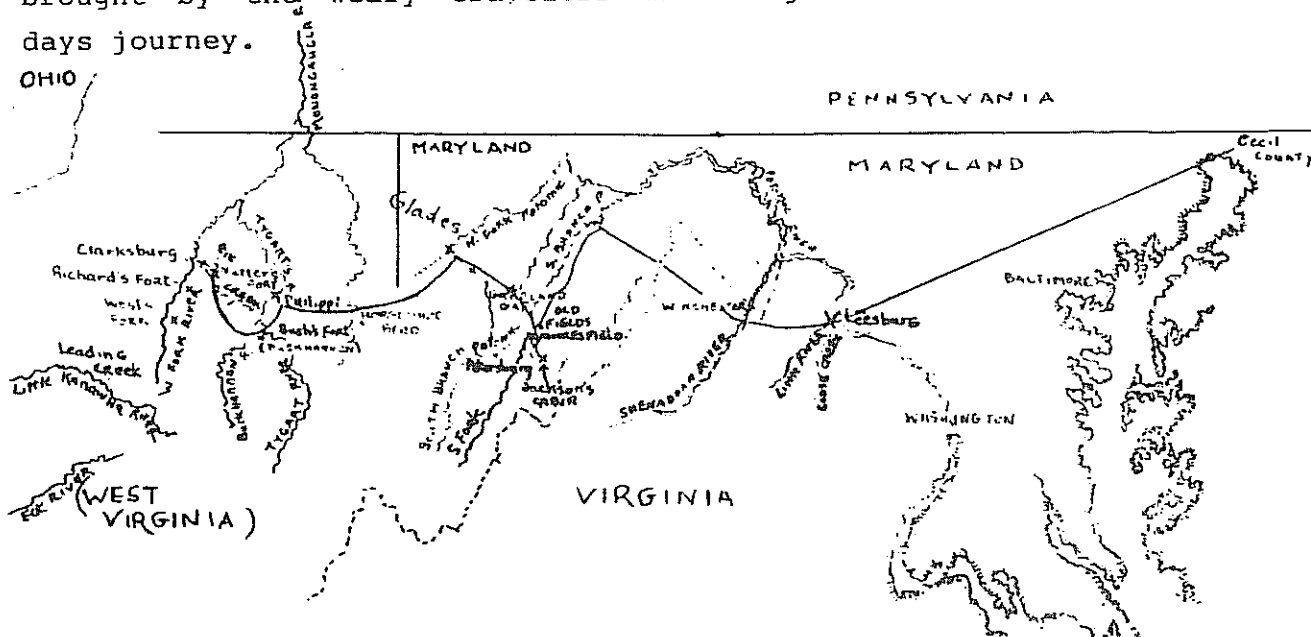


Here, Elizabeth and John raised their family. In a time when women had few rights, Elizabeth proudly purchased with her gold inheritance 3000 acres of land which now encompasses Buckhannon, WV., patenting the land in her own name. In 1815 Elizabeth sold her land to John Patten of Fredricksburg, Va.



He and his sons George and Edward were Indian spys. Their heroic acts are recorded in the pages of Alexander Scott Withers' Border Warfare and Lucullus V. McWhorters' Border Settlers of Northwestern Va <sup>4</sup>. John was instrumental in the organization of Randolph County and was appointed Commissioner of Revenue on the 28th of May 1782. Later he was appointed a Justice of the Peace for the county court.

Sometime around 1782-83 John and Elizabeth moved to Clarsksburg, WV, in Harrison County. They lived in a stone house on the south side of East Main Street. It was likely that this home was also built to serve as a fort for the Indian hostilities would not cease until the turn of the century. On the west side of the street was the Jackson ordinary (inn) where George and his wife Elizabeth Brake Jackson would continue to raise their family. George was actively persuing his political career and attending to the matters of his mill which left the operation of the ordinary to his wife. No doubt, Elizabeth and John aided their daughter-in-law in the daily preparations while the Jackson children attended to their chores and eagerly waited for mealtime when they "climbed on the benches that extended the length of the long table where, everyone, guests and family were served three times a day"(Davis 15). As they ate from heaping platters of food they listened to the stories and news brought by the weary travelers who sought relief from their days journey.

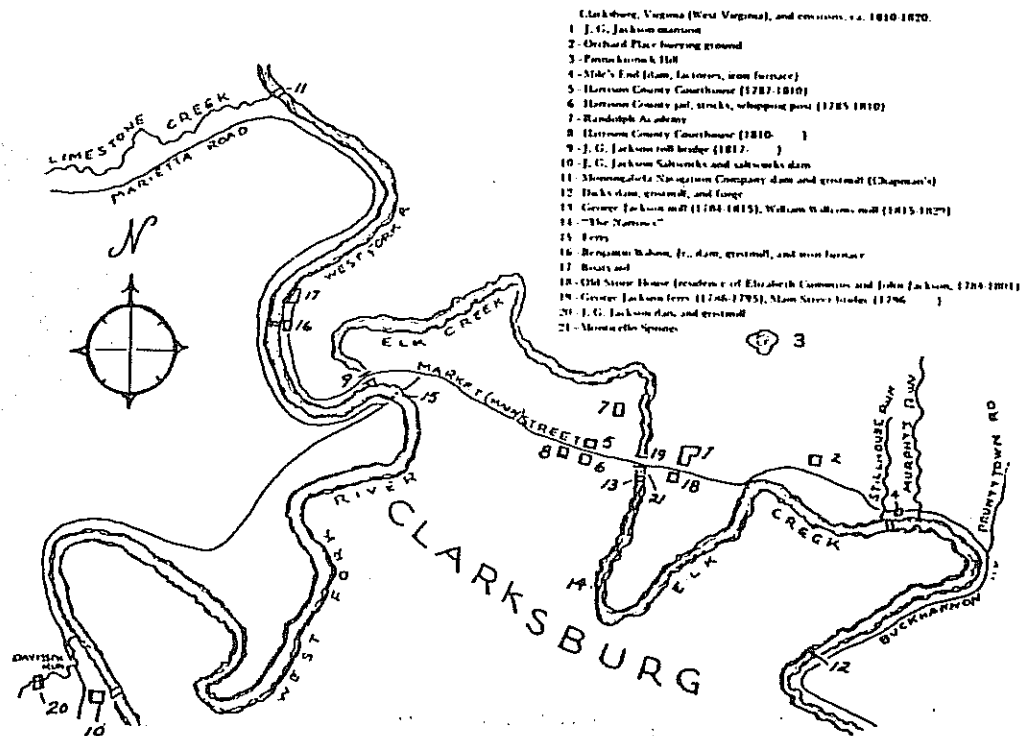


John Jackson's pleasure in his declining years was watching the operations of his son's mill. Here, on Elk Creek, he told stories to his teenage grandson, George Washington Jackson whose responsibility it was to care for his grandfather who refused to leave the mill site. John died a happy man in the arms of his loving wife at the old stone house in Clarksburg.<sup>5</sup> He was buried 1/2 mile from the home of his grandson, John George, at the edge of the orchard next to the grave of his baby grandson, Thomas, who had died 8 months before.

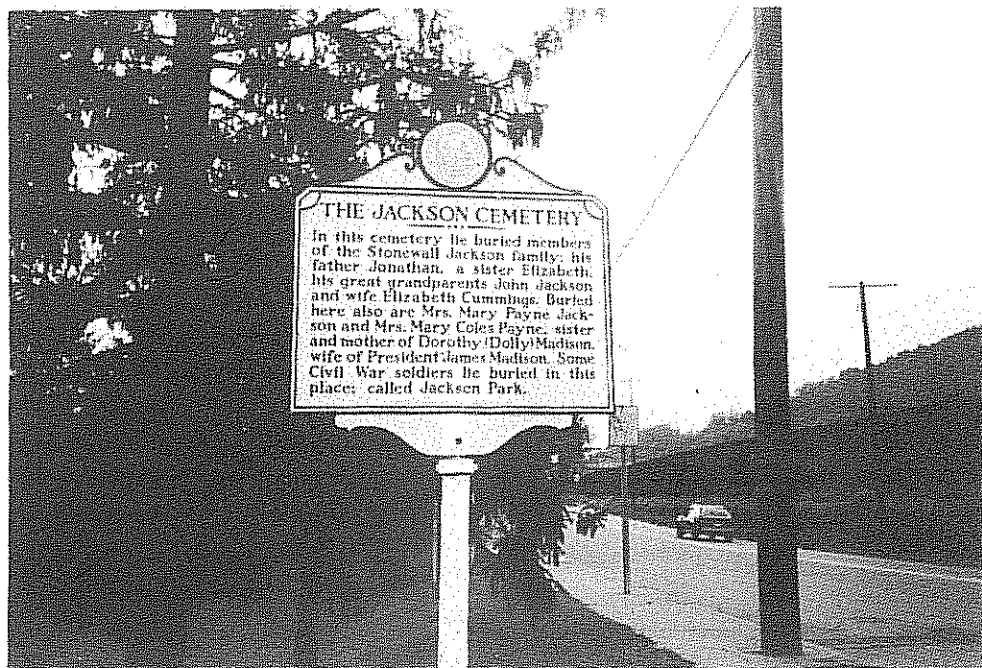
Elizabeth, the Matriarch of the family for three generations lived almost a quarter of a century longer than her husband. Her son, George, made financial arrangements, with Abraham Brake, his brother-in-law for living quarters for his mother<sup>5</sup>. Elizabeth, unhappy with these arrangements made arrangements of her own. After all, over three quarters of a century before, she, as a young girl had come to this new country alone, had purchased her own land, built her own homes, raised her own food, made her own clothing, bore and educated and nursed her children in pioneer forts, courageously fighting off the Indians after sending her men into battle, and buried her husband, children and grandchildren. She was self-supporting and did not need George's money and she would decide where she was going to live.<sup>6</sup>

Before she died, over the age of 101, at the home of her grandson, John George,<sup>7</sup> she had the joy of holding in her arms her great grandson, Thomas J. Jackson<sup>8</sup>. She would never know that he would become one of our country's most famous generals..... General Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson. Elizabeth rests next to her husband in the family burial plot, the "Old Jackson Cemetery", in Clarksburg.<sup>9</sup>





from: JOHN GEORGE JACKSON by Dorothy Davis @1810-1820 p. 158





- 1..genealogists have traced this family back to Charles The Great, also known as Charlemagne, Emperor of the West; and his 3rd wife Hildegarde, Princess of Savoy..their second son (Jackson 8, 9)
- 2..one record states that their firstborn "Jonathan" died in infancy.
- 3..of the 30 lots, 18 were occupied in 1815...at least 7 by Jackson descendants
- 4..Lucullus Virgil McWhorter was the son of Rosetta Marple and Dr. John Minion McWhorter, gr.s/o John W. Marple and Ruth Reger, g-gr. s/o Isaac and Mary Magdalene Brake, g-g-gr. s/o Jacob(Indian captive) and Mary Slaughter Brake and g-g-g-gr. s/o Jacob Brake and wife Miss Nyeswanan
- 5.. "I, George Jackson of the State of Ohio, for the affection I bear my mother Elizabeth Jackson do give and grant to her annually during her life the sum of twenty-five dollars, of which I here pay in hand and will pay on the first of June annually after the present year a like sum of twenty-five dollars and I have here paid to Abraham Brake for her use the sum in had and entered into the following agreement with him:...(Davis 382).
- 6.. "You say my Honorable Mother is removed from her son-in-law's Joseph Davis to her granddaughter's Elizabeth Dicks. I have nothing to say on the occasion only the presumption is her frail and childish age will not let her enjoy contentment on this side of another world. But still I would be willing to move her here if she would agree to come and live with me the rest of her days and not wish to go back again to Virginia." (George Jackson to Mary M. Jackson, February 18, 1817, FJN.[Davis 382]).

- 7..historians disagree on the death dates of the couple.  
Their markers read John 1719-1804, Elizabeth 1720-1825  
The sign at the cemetery reads: John 1715-1801, Elizabeth 1723-1828. If we use son George's birthdate which was stated by Elizabeth to her grandson, then the sign is nearly correct. The original tombstones were destroyed when the cemetery went unattended for several years.
- 8..Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson was the son Jonathan Jackson and Julia Beckwith Neale and the grandson of Col. Edward Jackson, the second child of John and Elizabeth, and his first wife, Mary Hadden, daughter of David Hadden of NJ. He was orphaned at a young age and raised by his grandfather and his second wife Elizabeth Weatherholt Brake, and their bachelor sons. Elizabeth W. Brake was the daughter of John Brake, (s/o Baron John Jacob Brake) and his first wife Elizabeth Weatherholt. John and his daughter are buried at Jackson Mills beside Edward in the family plot.
- 9..other family members buried at Old Jackson Cemetery..John George and his family and descendants, Jonathan Jackson, father of Stonewall and daughter, Mary; Abraham Brake h/o Mary Elizabeth Jackson who is buried near Dayton, Ohio. various other descendants of John and Elizabeth.

written, Feb 1991, by  
Linda Brake Meyers  
Byron, Illinois 61010

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Pederson, Ralph, History and Architecture, Clarksburg's East Main Street, Clarksburg, WV, May 1985

HARDESTY CORRECTED BY STRANGE HALL

Submitted by Robert B. Smith

The following letter from Strange Hall re the Bonnetts and Bennetts was printed in an old issue of the Buckhannon "Delta Reocrd". I found it in my files but have no idea about the date of publication.

"Permit me to correct a statement taken from Hardesty's Encyclopedia in regard to the soldiers who served under Captain Flesher at Flesher's Station. The three names given by Hardesty are Peter Bennett, Samuel Bennett and Louis Bennett. The names of these three brothers should have been Bonnett. They were brothers and two of them and a younger brother, Philip, lived on Skin Creek when I was a lad. I do not think there were any Bennett's in the present bounds of Lewis County till 1800, when Wm. Bennett and three brothers made their home in Collins Settlement. Wm. Bennett located nearby and embracing the village of Walkersville, Abram and Joseph on Abrams Run and Jacob on Leatherbark where Dan Anderson lives.

"Peter, the oldest of the Bonnett brothers, moved on Skin Creek in 1832, locating across the creek from Vandalia and lived there for several years. They were the nearest neighbors and I often heard Father and Uncle Peter, as we always called him, tell of his experiences as an Indian scout. Among other incidents, he spoke of the Flesher raid where Weston now stands, and of being stationed there with two of his brothers, Lewis and Samuel, till it was known that the Indians had left. Uncle Peter never killed an Indian, though he sighted one at fair range, but as he was about to fire, the Indian sprang behind a tree and the trail he made in the weeds to the brush marked his flight.

"The Bonnetts were Dutch and never mastered the English idoms. Lewis and Phillip settled on Skin Creek. They were fine examples of the industrious, jolly Dutch. Their gushing blunders in the use of the Kings English was the source of much amusement among their neighbors, especially among the young, who often repeated them. At the time of whish I write, Little Skin Creek was the most compact settlement of the West Fork waters above Weston. Commencing at the mouth of Curtis Run when Alexander Hacker made first settlement on Skin Creek, who sold the property to Rev. John Hardman, the mechanical genius of the community. A grist mill was soon in operation which far surpassed the old fashioned hand mill or tin grater, when the stream was flush. Lacking the patience of a miller, the property soon passed into the hands of Rev. Anthony Spaur, Hardman making his home two miles further up the creek. Then Henry Bott, Felix Albert, Lewis Bonnett and John Hardman lived at the extreme end of the creek.

"One night during a storm in June, a heavy rain deluged the upper part of the stream, while the lower part was dry.

Soon after starting his plant, he was surprised to see people passing down the road with filled sacks under them. His curiosity will be given in his own words, though letters cannot express the pronunciation, "I went down to ze road and tole 'em wer da gone, era da axt me to Spaur's Mill", giving the German sound of the vowel, whole the natives used the couplet "old father Spaur and ten thousand more". Uncle Lewis got a grist of meal, but brother Phillip was less fortunate in the incident which followed. Dutch barns had not been introduced into the Skin Creek settlement, and few of the corn cribs permanent. There were generally built of rails with slats for end timber - the width regulated by the size of the crop and condition of them. They were admirable for drying late corn.

Uncle Phillip's crib was built on siding ground and when filled had the appearance of Pisa's great tower. So he ties one end of a line to the crib and the other end to the frow to steady it, while he mounted to lay the boards. Before the work was half finished, the structure moved, and he called "spull spolly, spull bolly, I say bull bolly", down went the crib, landing the rotund builder on the steep incline, where he rolled to the bottom with the corn following after.

Uncle Peter spoke our language better. His wife was a Linger - sister of Nicholas, Phillip, William and Joseph Linger, all having families on the upper waters of Skin Creek and Stone Coal. Although his associates had chiefly been English, his religion was Dutch. At a large log-rolling, my father made Rev. Hardman drop in for dinner, and he was expected to ask a blessing, so he called on Uncle Peter, who responded in the native tongue, to which his reverence gave a hearty amen, adding that the Lord understood Dutch as well as English, and that he used to pray in that language himself. A smile that could be heard illuminated the countenances of some of those present. A few years later, the three families moved to the Black hawk purchase beyond the Mississippi, which was then the far west of the immigrant. They left married daughters whose descendants bearing the names of Spaur, Clark, Marsh and Smith are worthy citizens of the community. {signed} Strange Hall

Note from Robert B. Smith: Flesher's Station is the earliest name for what would become Weston. The name derives from an Indian scout post manned by Henry Flesher (and apparently also, by Mr. Hall's account, the Bonnett brothers), beginning in 1776, it is believed. As an Indian scout, Mr. Flesher was charged by the authroities of colonial Virginia with the duty of keeping watch for Indians moving east and west along the valleys of Leading, Polk and Stone Coal creeks, and reporting their movements to the other white settlers in pioneer Lewis (then part of Monongalia and later Harrison) County.

- cont. on page 13

**THE GERMAN ORIGINS OF HENRY FLESHER**

In the pioneer history of central West Virginia many names have become somewhat notable in the initial European settlement and development of the region. The name of Henry Flesher as such has become fairly well known among the students of Appalachian history, he being the first white settler at what is now Weston, West Virginia, at the intersection of Interstate 79 and the Appalachian Corridor H, or Route 33. While the name of Henry Flesher and stories of his exploits have appeared in the pages of numerous local and regional histories, almost nothing has been written which would attempt to throw light on the European origins of this venerable pioneer. The story of Henry Flesher's origins and immigration to America is typical of thousands of American ancestors and pioneers, and as a fifth great grandson of this old German immigrant I hope the following will in part fill the void of information on his European beginnings.

That Henry Flesher was born in Germany the evidence is ample. He signed his will in old German script, among his possessions at his death were a "Dutch Bible" ("Dutch" being a corruption of the word "Deutsche", meaning German), his apparent relative Peter Flesher naturalized in court in Augusta County in 1770, and both their names appear among the German passenger lists on the ship "Phoenix" at Philadelphia in 1752. Henry Flesher was born prior to the year 1737, as by law the captain of the above named ship was only required to list male passengers above the age of 16 years. On the passenger list in question Henry Flesher signed his own name, rather than having the officials do it for him. His name in German was originally Heinrich Fleischer.

The village of Flesher's birth is as yet unknown. Before information on his parentage and ancestry can be obtained, the village of birth will be needed. The Germany of Heinrich Fleischer's day was not a unified body as it is today, but rather a loose confederation of some 1700 independent states, duchies, baronies, free cities, ecclesiastical principalities, countships, and dukedoms. These were rather loosely aligned as vassals of the Hapsburg rulers of the Holy Roman Empire, or First Reich, which had been considerably weakened by a succession of wars and internal struggles, such as the Thirty Years War (1618-1648), the War of Spanish Succession (1701-1714), and the War of Austrian Succession (1741-1748). Much of the land and many of the cities had been burned or laid waste by these conflicts, and even though the church officials began keeping records of individuals in the 1500's, the Thirty years War destroyed practically all of these dating before 1648.

One of the major mass movements of people in world history was the emigration from southwestern Germany during that period. Records would indicate that over 65,000 of these persons stepped off of ships at Philadelphia alone before the American Revolution, and a good many others disembarked in other states and countries. The Rhine River region known as The Palatinate was a major source of immigrants, perhaps the leading source, and for that reason all of the Germans leaving the Reich at the time became known as "Palatines", whether or not they came from The Palatinate. In the Philadelphia passenger lists the Wurttemberg region follows Rhenish Palatinate as the second major source of immigrants, with Baden, Hesse, and Alsace respectively next in number. All of these adjoin with the exception of Hesse, and form the basin of the upper Rhine and Neckar Rivers.

While on the throne of The Reich sat the Kaiser, or Emperor, his power in fact over the average individual was nearly nonexistent. The average German of the eighteenth century was to a greater extent the subject of his local ruler, and in order to emigrate to America the individual first had to apply for permission, which was often granted for a price. The records of these manumissions were and are kept in the respective local offices, and for this reason it is imperative that the village of origin be known before a record of an ancestor's emigration can be found. Various reasons for

leaving are given in these records. Extreme poverty and starvation, heavy taxation, religious intolerance, crime and illegitimacy are among the reasons listed. One Jeremias Schoerger of Wertheim, about which region more will be related below, reported he was loaded with debts and wanted to go to America: "Owes the Jew Samuel of Homburg 100 florins, the Jew Erndle of Wenkheim 2 florins, and the Jew Eisig of Oberalterheim 40 florins". In Schoerger's case the Jew Samuel demanded that Schoerger's home farm be signed over to him to satisfy the debt. In 1752 in the same region, one Casper Bæuschlein reported in his emigration record that he wanted to go to America as "the direst need drives me to do it since there is at the present time no work for day laborers". One Mathaeus Wilhelm Henning, a poor fatherless orphan, son of the late baker reported that he wanted to go to Pennsylvania "in order to learn something and honestly support himself by a trade". The same year Philip and Christoph Horn, cousins, applied for permission to leave as they "would like to seek their fortune abroad and work as servants in Pennsylvania". All of the above mentioned Wertheimers, with the exception of Schoerger, and in addition to a number of other Wertheimers, got on the Phoenix at Rotterdam, on the same voyage as Henry Flesher, and they came across the ocean with him.

After permission was granted for an emigrant to leave the Rhine valley in the eighteenth century, he next contracted with a boatman for the trip down river to Holland. This process was expensive and time consuming, but nonetheless was the route taken by most of the emigrants. At Rotterdam a large group was gotten together, and contracted with the captain of a British ship for the trip to America. The entire process was often overseen by the hated and detested "soul seller", a professional agent who made his living by promotion of immigration into the colonies. Once the deal was made for passage by ship to Pennsylvania, the ship would often stop in England. Since the ships were leaving from Holland and stopping in England, many students of Flesher family history have mistakenly assumed that the family was from one of those two countries.

Probably about mid September, 1752, the "Phoenix" was loaded at Rotterdam with about 600 persons, and began the voyage to America. It stopped at Portsmouth, England, and then continued to Philadelphia. About a third of the persons aboard were from the little principality of Lowenstein-Wertheim, on the Main River, a tributary of the Rhine. A number of persons on board were from the village of Oberboihingen, in Wurttemberg. Among the passengers on board who do not have a known place of origin were Heinrich and Peter Fleischer.

Unfortunately the knowledge of the regional origin of some of the persons on the "Phoenix" do not necessarily indicate the origin of the Fleischers. The name of Fleischer is somewhat common throughout Germany, although as emigrants it seems to be far less common than Weiss, Conradt, or Simon. In Upper Hesse near Schotten there is a little village called Oberseemen. In this village lived a Fleischer family during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. This is the only Fleischer family of the period I have found with naming practices similar to that of the Henry Fleischer family. These persons used the names of Heinrich, Balthasar, and Johannes, like the American family. The village of Oberseemen is about 30 miles from Lowenstein-Wertheim, where some of the "Phoenix" passengers were from. During the period Fleischers are also found at Frankfurt and Mannheim, and in a host of little village in the region. The name shows up in Wurttemberg in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and this presents an intriguing clue in light of the fact that part of the "Phoenix" passengers were from that region.

The captain of the "Phoenix" was one John Spurrier. It landed at Philadelphia 2 November, 1752, and the Pennsylvania Journal newspaper noted that the passengers passage was to be paid to Pole and Howell, merchants of Water Street in Philadelphia. Pole and Howell were major importers, importing at different times dry goods and even

servants. The Pennsylvania Gazette also made note of the landing of the "Phoenix", and it referred to the passengers as "Palatines". The immigrants on board took their oaths before ont Edward Shippen, Esq. The "Phoenix" lay in dock at Philadelphia until 9 December when it left for Honduras.

In the passenger arrival records at Philadelphia several persons with the name of Fleischer appear. On 25 october, 1748 the "Paleina and Margaret" landed at Philadelphia, and among the passengers was one Balzer Fleischer. Just over two years later on 30 November, 1750 the "Sandwich" landed, and it carried among other persons one Johannes Fleischer. The Pennsylvania Journal of the day indicated that the "Sandwich" was the 14th vessel from Holland that year in which some 4,317 Germans had been imported. Again it was nearly two years before another ship carrying a Fleischer landed, and that one was the "Phoenix", with Heinrich and Peter Fleischer. Then, eleven months later the "Neptune" landed, on 24 September, 1753, and it carried one Johannes Fleischer. Another West Virginia pioneer appears to have been among the passengers of that ship, Michael Isner who was an original settler near Elkins, West Virginia.

Of the ships above mentioned that carried Fleischers to America, the "Neptune" and it's passengers would seem to be more closely affiliated with the passengers of the "Phoenix" than the other two. I cross referenced all of the names in all four lists, and found that only three surnames appear in common with the "Phoenix" and the "Paleina and Margaret" and "Sandwich". However, between the "Phoenix" and the "Neptune", 23 appear in common. Of these, 13 are among those with places of origin in Germany identified, and they all are from Lowenstein-Wertheim. So the "Neptune" appears to possibly have been drawing immigrants from the same agents as the "Phoenix", and it is possible that the Johannes Fleischer on that ship was a relative of the Heinrich and Peter Fleischer on the "Phoenix".

Of the above mentioned Fleischers, Balzer settled at Germantown, a Philadelphia suburb, and was a member of the congregation of the St. Michaelis Evangelical Lutheran Church. One of the Johannes settled at Trappe, in Montgomery County, about 20 miles from Germantown. This Johannes was schoolmaster ("schulmeister") of the Augustus Church there. Heinrich and Peter Fleischer became Henry and Peter Flesher, and they moved to the South Branch of the Potomac River in what is now Pendleton County, West Virginia, arriving there about 1759, after the fall of Fort Duquesne made furthur colonization of the area safer from Indian raids. They moved into the German community there that had been established in the 1740's. George Washington had visited that German community in 1748 and described it thusly: "(we were) attended by a great company of people... that attended us through the woods...showing us their antick tricks. I...think they seemed to be as ignorant a set of people as the Indians. They would never speak English but when spoken to they speak all Dutch."

Peter Flesher remained in Pendleton County and raised a large family. Henry appears to have married Elizabeth Bush about 1759 and he later moved to the mouth of Stonecoal Creek on the West Fork River in Lewis County. He has been the subject of some local notoriety due to the fact that the town of Weston was subsequently built on his land grant. His German origin remains unknown, but research is underway involving various descendants to find the village. I have been told by one expert that the task may be insurmountable, but it is hoped that through further study something can eventually be learned.

written by

David Armstrong  
PO Box 1933  
Elkins, WV  
26241



As a boy torted with John Bush; lived Mason County in Jan 1818 when he sold site of Weston WV to Maxwell and Stringer; 1824 lived 1 1/2 mile west of Clarksburg, Harrison County on 307 acres purchased of Benjamin Wilson; in

FATHER(S) HENRY FLESHER JR

Born/Chr. 1775

Marr.(s) 28 Mar 1797

Died 1840 Harrison County WV 1828 in Bush land case; was not the Henry who witnessed Paulser Butcher will;

Bur. of Harrison County Mar 1837 and sold 335 acres Lewis Co to Solomon Flesher

Parents Henry Flesher Sr & Elizabeth ?Bush?

[Jr. surveyor and overseer of highway Harrison Co 1827-1832

MOTHER(S) SARAH BUTCHER

David Armstrong

P.O. Box 1933

Elkins, WV 26241

Born/Chr. before 1829

Bur.

Parents Paulser Butcher and Elizabeth ?Bush?

	CHILDREN	WHERE BORN WHEN BORN	REMARKS	MARRIAGE(S) TO WHOM	WHERE AND WHEN DIED
1	Paulser Butcher Flesher	c1800	Harrison Co of Burnett & Travis Co Tx	11 Sep 1827 Mary Ann Daken	1856 Williamson Co, Tx
2	?Margaret?	1794-1804(census)	witness 1840 Henry Flesher deed		
3	Elizabeth	20 Oct 1801	of Meigs Co, Ohio		11 Jun 1877
4	Susan		in Ohio 1837	Jacob Bush (1787 - 1855 son of John)	
5	Solomon		an attorney qualif. Harrison 1835, Lewis 1836; to Wood Co c 1844, in Ohio 1850's	9 Aug 1825 William Hickman	
6	John	1812	was a tailor	2 Oct 1834 Minerva Weems Camden	8 Apr 1897 Wood Co WV
7	Mary "May"	1798	son John Luther Flesher born 1830 & bound to John Peck 1845	18 Oct 1838 Thomas Jones	
8	?Catherine?	1810-1820(census)	head household 1840 Harrison Co		
9					
10			(Roy Bird Cook wrote that Henry Flesher Jr acquired military grant in Mason County which included island in Ohio River and was owned by family into 1900's)		
11					
12					
13	Henry Flesher Jr's known children documentable as follows: Solomon in Lewis Co Deed books G1/103, 154 F/292. John shows up as John son of Henry in Lewis Co land book 1850-55 as the owner of a tract of land John and Minerva later deed to Boggess Deed Ex T/224. Susan in Lewis Co deed book G1/103, Mary "May" documentable Harrison Co deed book 27/297 and 32/472 also 1850 census; Elizabeth in Bush law suit Harrison 53/9				

COMPILER: David Armstrong, PO Box 1933, Elkins, WV, 26241

## MILITIA FROM HACKERS CREEK AREA IN DUNSMORE'S WAR - 1774

### CAPT. WILLIAM LOWTHER'S COMPANY

Capt. William Lowther	132 days of service	Pvt. Arnold Richards	132 days of service
Lt. John Powers	132 "	Pvt. Paul Richards	132 "
Sgt. Charles Washburn	132 "	Pvt. Daniel Cain	132 "
Sgt. William Moore	78 "	Pvt. John Murphy	132 "
Pvt. Elijah Runner	132 "	Pvt. Isaac Hornor	132 "
Pvt. Isaac Washburn	132 "	Pvt. Hezekiah Stout	132 "
Pvt. James Gregory	132 "	Pvt. George Bush	132 "
Corp. Samuel Beard	132 "	Pvt. Adam Bush	132 "
Pvt. Thomas Hughes	132 "	Pvt. Paul Butcher	132 "
Pvt. Jesse Hughes	132 "	Pvt. Soth Hickman	132 "
Pvt. Elias Hughes	132 "	Pvt. William Gregory	132 "
Pvt. Edmond West	132 "	Pvt. Nath'l Gregory	132 "
Pvt. Charles West	132 "	Pvt. Samuel Cottril	132 "
Pvt. Nathaniel Davison	78 "	Pvt. John Cain	132 "
Pvt. Isaac Davison	78 "	Pvt. Mathew Nugent	132 "
Pvt. Benjamin Copeland	78 "	Pvt. Robert Lowther	132 "
Scout Daniel Warner	78 "	Pvt. Isaac Richards	132 "
Pvt. Daniel Stout	78 "	Pvt. Hezekiah Davison	132 "
Pvt. Thomas Stout	78 "	Scout Andrew Davison	132 "
Pvt. Daniel Murphy	78 "	Pvt. Edward Tanner	132 "
Pvt. Thomas Bartley	132 "	Pvt. Josiah Davison	132 "
Pvt. Conrad Richards	132 "		

The above list of Militia was discovered during a recent visit to the Virginia State Library. Within the Archives section of the library the payroll list of those who accompanied Lord Dunsmore, Governor of Virginia, in the Ohio Campaign against the Shawnee Indian has been preserved. The campaign was the reaction of the Virginian's against numerous raids by the Indians during the summer of 1774. The campaign resulted in the "Battle of Point Pleasant" which the U. S. Congress has declared as the first battle of the American Revolution. To my knowledge, this is the first publication of the individual members of Capt. Lowther's company who participated in this campaign.

The individual ranks identified above may not be totally accurate as they were determined based on interpretation from the pay scale given to individual members of the Militia group and the pay scale established by the Virginia House of Burgesses. The release of this article for publication in the Hacker's Creek Journal has been granted by the Harrison County Geneological Society.

Earl D. Balsley

HINKLE'S FORT IN PENDLETON COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA  
by Mrs. Elsie Byrd Boggs, DAR #162,451

John Justus Hinkle, Sr., founder and builder of Hinkle's Fort, was the pioneer settler of the Hinkle Clan in Pendleton County which has since spread both far and near over many counties.

He was born February 10, 1706 in Germany and came to America in 1717 with his parents. Rev. Anthony Jacob and Maria Elizabeth Hinkle, who with their seven children settled in what is now Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, where John Justus grew to manhood.

Later we find him married and still residing in Pennsylvania but by and by continued wars in Germany caused such a heavy immigration from that country to Pennsylvania that the value of land grew so enormously high he decided to seek a home where prices and keen interest in the South Country had been aroused by very liberal offers. The Indian Trails along the Potomac River and its tributaries were then the routes to the South and many of the families from Pennsylvania migrated over them.

By 1750 John Justus Hinkle had sold his property in Pennsylvania and with his family journeyed to North Carolina where he settled in what is now Davidson County. He prospered in the new location until the "Wild Men", as he called the Indians, broke out, and because of their terribly depredations in the South, he again moved with his family, in 1760 to Germany Valley, then frontier of West Augusta, which later became Rockingham County, VA, and today is Pendleton County, West Virginia. John Justus was now a man of mature years, with a family of twelve children, the youngest being Isaac, a lad of five or six years.

The writer was told by her great grandmother, Mary Hammer, who was Isaac's granddaughter, that she remembered him well, and of hearing him say that the first time he ever saw Mary Cunningham who later became his wife, was when she came to school wearing a short gown and petticoat, then quite the style, so we learn that Justus Hinkle provided not only Christian education but a school for his own and for the neighbor's children as well. Some of his children were married before leaving North Carolina, and they all returned with him, bringing their families.

George Teter, with a family came from Germany to Pennsylvania with the Hinkles, then migrated with the family of Justus Hinkle to North Carolina, where Teter left his family while he returned to Germany on business. As he never returned and was never heard from, it was supposed that he was lost at sea. As the Hinkles had promised to care for his family until his return, they brought them with their own family to their new place of abode. They found the Harpers, Cunninghams and other families already settled in the nearby regions, who were to become their neighbors, and whose descendants were to mingle with their own to people the vast part of the country down through the ages.

There were seven marriages alone between the Hinkles and Teters, which prove the congeniality of the two pioneer families. As they found most of their neighbors to be German, we may well imagine the satisfaction they found in conversing with them in their native tongue, and although they had fled from their country they proved their spirit of filial devotion by naming their newly acquired community "Germany Valley" which name it still bears.

The Indian Trail from Philadelphia to Tennessee which branched to the Carolinas had trails that connected with the famous Seneca trail, and as this trail passed near the new lands purchased by Justus Hinkle, it was necessary for him to erect a "Strong House" which was later called a "Block House" and still later known as "Hinkle's Fort" in which his family and neighbors could take refuge from Indian depredations. Only a short time before the Indians had moved from this section to live in the "Ohio Country". They had a large village at the Mouth of Seneca which was not far distant, and here they left a mound some six feet high and 12 feet broad at the top where it was supposed their dead were buried. For a period of years they, sometimes in large bands, continued to travel the Seneca Trail and they always demanded food when coming to the home of the white settlers. At first they were friendly, but as more of the land was taken up by the new people, they became embittered and finally got so dangerous that frontier communities were compelled to live in the shadow of the stockade, and to use watchful care lest at any time they might steal upon them and kill or carry them into captivity; and we have record of two young girls from this community having been carried away but later escaped and made their way back.

The Hinkle fortification had a stockade of the usual size which was circular with a diameter of about 30 yards, within which stood the two story block house, some 20 feet square and fitted with loop holes. This was the city of refuge to the various families. The Hinkle fort did not suffer the cruel destiny of Fort Upper Tract or Fort Seybert, both of which met cruel destruction and murder only two or three years previous to the erection of Hinkle's Fort.

As Hinkle's Fort had a large training field adjoining, it later became quarters and training grounds of the North Fork Battalion of the Virginia Militia of the Revolution, and although Justus Hinkle, Sr. was a man of seventy years of age at the beginning of the Revolution he continued to hold command of the Fort and to furnish quarters and supplies to the soldiers as long as he lived, which was only about two years, his death taking place in 1778, after which his son, Abraham, succeeded to the command of the Fort, and carried on for the remainder of the War.

Two other sons, Isaac and Justus, Jr., and three sons-in-law, John Skidmore, Andrew Johnson and Paul Teter, became Captains of Virginia Militia of the Revolution, and John Skidmore, who later became Major, was noted for his bravery

at the battle of Point Pleasant, thus we see that the Hinkles were active in defending the frontier during the Revolution as well as during the earlier depredations from the Indians. They were truly "Stalwart Sons of West Augusta."

The memory of this great pioneer family is highly honored and appreciated and on October 9, 1935, a beautiful marker was erected by some of its descendants to perpetuate in memory its deeds of valor. The seven and one-half foot shaft is of Georgia granite, and made in the shape of an Indian arrow. Its decoration is a replica of a Colonial Block House built of logs and of a colonial flint rifle. The front side of the huge arrow has a smooth surface which bears the following inscription:

"About the years of 1761-1762, John Justus Hinkle, Sr. built a Block House as a home for the family and a protection against the Indians. It became a nucleus for a Colonial Frontier Fort, later used by Continental Forces during the Revolution, and was called Hinkle's Fort."

This is one of the few families that can boast of the perpetuation of its name in a fort of Pre-Revolutionary days and the marker is intended by the Hinkle descendants to be a memorial to their ancestor, John Justus Hinkle, Sr. and his large family, and also to all the brave, adventurous pioneers who carved America out of the wilderness and who faced privations and dangers of the primitive frontier, as well as constant fear of death at the hands of the Indians.

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#### HARRISON COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA, DEATH RECORDS 1853-1903

This new book by our member, Patti Hickman, is now available from Heritage Books, 1540 E Pointer Ridge Place, Bowie, MD 20716. 210 pages, with surname index. \$18 plus \$3 postage. Order No H314.

THE LIFE AND TIMES  
OF  
JOHN THEODORE SCHIEFER  
(1830-1864)  
LEWIS COUNTY HERO - CIVIL WAR TRAGEDY  
by  
William Foster Hayes III

## PART XI

## (CONTINUED)

On Monday, July 18th, 1864, Co. B 15th WV (this day having been put into General Horatio Gouverneur Wright's 6th Corps) swept down from Snicker's Gap and crossed the Shenandoah River at Island Ford, preparing to give further chase to Early. But Confederate General John Cabell Breckinridge, in command of Early's rear ranks, suddenly turned and made a fierce counterattack. Not enough forces had crossed the Shenandoah to make a stand. Co. B was caught in a brief but withering attack. They tried to cross back over the river on the few rude flat pontoon boats they'd just used to cross on, but there wasn't enough room for everybody in the boats. Pvt. William Moneypenny and Pvt. George W. Steinbeck were wounded, but dragged aboard one of the crowded boats to safety.

John Theodore Schiefer had been in the front line of the advance. He fell back to the river as the boats pulled away from the western shore. Several of his mates swam out into the current, were swept downstream, but were eventually able to cross and rejoin Co. B. John Theodore could not swim. The last boats had gone. He was left with three choices: try to swim -- and drown; turn and fire -- and be shot; or put down his gun, put up his hands -- and wait to be captured. I can imagine his great sigh -- no more brimstone, no more screams, no more blood.

John Theodore chose to stay alive and take his chances as a prisoner of war.

John Theodore Schiefer

On that same day, July 18th, 1864, Colonel Thomas N. Morris, in command of 15th WV Inf Vol, was killed, and General George Crook was rewarded for his Courageous service in West Virginia by being brevetted a Major General.

In his autobiography (p. 122), General Crook remembers July 18th, 1864:

"My troops had no more than crossed the river when the enemy's strength commenced developing. I desired to withdraw my troops to our side of the river, but he (Gen. H. G. Wright, in command of the 6th Corps) said no, he would order Gen. Ricketts to cross the river and support me with his division.

"Gen. Ricketts was standing with us at this time. He gave Gen. Ricketts the order in my presence. Gen. Ricketts' division was lying just in the rear of my men. He and I rode down together to where the crossing was to be made. By the time we had reached this place, the enemy had shown such strength that Gen. Ricketts declined to go to their support, and allowed many of my men to be sacrificed. I lost some valuable men here, murdered by incompetency or worse."

John Laird Wilson, in his epic History of the Great Civil War (p. 787), records the incident of July 18th in greater detail:

"On the 18th the whole of Wright's and Crook's forces had passed through Snicker's Gap, except Duffie's cavalry, sent to Ashby's Gap to guard against an attempt of the enemy to flank the National right. Shortly after mid-day the infantry crossed at Island Ford, two and a half miles below Snicker's Ferry, the 34th Massachusetts in the advance and driving the enemy. Crook's force was also soon over the river; a line of battle was formed, Col. Wells with the 34th Massachusetts being on the left and Col. Thorburn's brigade on the right. A sharp engagement ensued. The 6th Corps also had commenced crossing, when the enemy, under Breckinridge, finding the rear attacked, returned quickly, and charged and drove back Col. Thorburn's brigade, compelling it to recross the river. Col. Wells then withdrew his force in good order; and the enemy retained possession of the west bank. Duffie had no better fortune at Ashby's Gap. He had driven Imboden through the gap and across the river; but the enemy having

John Theodore Schiefer

returned in force, he was himself compelled to retreat. A loss of about 500 was sustained in these two fights."

George E. Pond's depiction in Campaigns of the Shenandoah Valley in 1864 (pp. 82-4) was even more detailed:

"Meanwhile, the afternoon of the 18th, from the summit of the Blue Ridge the enemy could be seen on the heights beyond the river. Early's force was around Berryville, and Breckinridge had charge of the fords of the Shenandoah. About two o'clock, Crook directed Thoburn (including Co. B 15th WV) to cross with his own division and the Third Brigade of the Second to dislodge the forces there, and to move for this purpose to Island Ford, a mile or more below Snicker's Ferry. Here the enemy, who had a picket behind bushes, opened a hot fire; but Wells's Brigade found a good wading place a few hundred yards below, and dashing across, carried the ford, capturing 15 skirmishers and the captain commanding them. From these it was learned that Early's whole force was not distant, and Gordon and Rodes only a mile or two away. Thoburn, on sending back this news to Crook, was directed not to attempt to move up to hold Snicker's Ferry for the passage of the Army, as at first intended, but to await a division of the 6th Corps which would cross for his support. Accordingly a position was selected, with the 1st, Wells's Brigade, on the left, the 3rd, Frost's, in the center, and the 2nd, commanded by Thoburn himself, on the right. Beyond the right flank was a force of about 1,000 dismounted cavalry, odds and ends of various regiments under Lieut. Col. Young, 4th PA. Fully half an hour later, Breckinridge advanced against Thoburn's left and center, with his two divisions, while Early sent Rodes to fall on the Union right. The dismounted cavalry on this flank was the first to break, under the fire of Rodes, and retreated across the river, despite the efforts of Young to rally it. Thoburn, who was in two lines, rapidly changed front to stem the tide, but at length the heavy impact of Rodes was too much for his force, which was driven into the stream. The left of his line, less sharply assailed, withdrew in good order, considering that its task was the trying one of retreating across a river under fire from the bank. The dead and wounded were left on the field, and Thoburn's casualties in this engagement were 65 killed, 301 wounded, and 56 missing -- total 422."

\* \* \*



## John Theodore Schiefer

Crook's men (without John Theodore Schiefer) did go on to see much service, participated in the Battle of Opequon Creek (Winchester), the Battle of Cedar Creek, and finally the Appomattox Campaign and the fall of Petersburg. They were at Appomattox Court House on Palm Sunday, April 9th, 1865, when Lee finally surrendered to Grant.

During those last 9 months of the War, Co. B 15th WV lost 37 more men:

- 1st Lieut. Detamore, John W.
- Sgt. Davis, James T.
- Corp. Brown, Thomas
- Corp. Ellis, James F.
- Corp. Montgomery, Henry
- Corp. Rohrbough, A. E.
- Pvt. Adams, Isaac
- Pvt. Bowan, John E.
- Pvt. Burkhammer, Joseph
- Pvt. Butcher, Michael
- Pvt. Carney, Michael
- Pvt. Crawford, Joseph
- Pvt. Davis, William H.
- Pvt. Finster, Simon
- Pvt. Hacker, William G.
- Pvt. Hall, Joseph
- Pvt. Horan, Kieran
- Pvt. Knapp, William T.
- Pvt. Laurell, John
- Mvt. McCudden, James
- Pvt. Means, Isaac
- Pvt. Moneypenny, Albert
- Pvt. Moneypenny, Henry
- Pvt. Murphy, John W.
- Pvt. Pletcher, Jacob H.
- Pvt. Pletcher, Jonathan
- Pvt. Pletcher, William H.
- Pvt. Plunkett, James
- Pvt. Rohrbough, John G.
- Pvt. Shearer, Henry
- Pvt. Shoulders, Jacob L.
- Pvt. Simmons, Wash
- Pvt. Sleeth, Adam C.
- Pvt. Sneed, Achilles H.
- Pvt. West, George
- Pvt. Wilkinson, Joshua S.
- Pvt. Woofter, Albert

## John Theodore Schiefer

How many of the original Co. B 15th WV made it through the entire Civil War and returned alive, unwounded, not captured, not sick or disabled? Only 36, roughly one third of the company. They were:

- 1st Lieut. Nicholas, William J. (who was promoted to Captain and transferred to command Co. D 15th WV)
- Sgt. Powers, Patrick (Promoted to 2nd Lieut)
- 1st Sgt. May, Lawrence
- 2nd Sgt. Belt, Hedgman
- Sgt. Fisher, George A.
- Sgt. Ward, John D.
- Corp. Bush, John J.
- Corp. Malia, Patrick
- Corp. Moneypenny, T. W.
- Corp. Wood, A. J. (Promoted to Sgt.)
- Wagoner Tanner, John
- Pvt. Arbogast, Daniel
- Pvt. Bailey, Albert
- Pvt. Brown, Jesse
- Pvt. Burns, Patrick
- Pvt. Conrad, George W.
- Pvt. Crawl, John W.
- Pvt. Cutright, Isaac
- Pvt. Davis, Lorenzo L.
- Pvt. Dodson, Charles E.
- Pvt. Doory, John
- Pvt. Fisher, Jacob C.
- Pvt. Gaston, James
- Pvt. Horan, Peter
- Pvt. Lamb, Skidmore
- Pvt. McManus, Patrick
- Pvt. Means, Calvin
- Pvt. Newcomb, John
- Pvt. Nicholas, Carr
- Pvt. Nicholas, M. C.
- Pvt. Osborne, Harrison
- Pvt. Swecker, Manley
- Pvt. Turner, Johnson
- Pvt. Waldeck, F. M.
- Pvt. Ward, Henry M.
- Pvt. West, Alexander

On April 9th, 1865, at Appomattox, following the official surrender of General Lee, the men of Co. B 15th WV cheerfully shared their remaining rations with the starving

John Theodore Schiefer

Confederate soldiers, then went searching for Lewis Countians who were in the Southern ranks. Every one they found they embraced and wept with, sobbing away the awful release of tension. The War wasn't officially over for a few more weeks, but Lee's surrender was the death rattle and all there knew it.

It was many weeks before Amanda Smith Schiefer heard that her soldier husband, John Theodore, had been captured. For her, the next several months were the hardest.

\* \* \*

John Theodore Schiefer and 55 other Union men were captured trying to recross the Shenandoah below Snicker's Gap and Ashby's Gap on that fateful day. Their rifles and ammunition were taken from them immediately, and they were sent forward under bristling guard, to Early's main body of troops at Berryville, where everything else of value was removed from their persons. An "official accounting" of names and personal belongings was written down but never seen again. They were left with tooth-brushes, handkerchiefs and the clothing on their backs. The prizes were cavalry boots, jack-knives and food.

General Early did not linger long anywhere, and Berryville was no exception. He called in his picketts and set out towards Winchester, moving fast. The prisoners were herded along in a tight group, bounded by armed guards who obviously disliked their duties and who kept making acrid remarks, goading the prisoners and daring them to try to make a run for freedom.

Nearing Winchester, Early veered southwest to Strasburg. Finally he called a halt. The prisoners were given cornbread and water, put into a makeshift pen made by ropes around some trees, guards were set on all sides. Despite the bustle of activity all night long, they slept the sleep of total physical and psychological exhaustion.

Next morning, as Early moved on up the Shenandoah Valley, the prisoners were marched to a warehouse-type building on the outskirts of Strasburg. There they remained with about a hundred other prisoners until such time as they could be put on a train. Food was cornbread, water came

John Theodore Schiefer

in a horse trough, the outhouse was connected to the rear of the main building. The heat was oppressive, the temporary prison stinking and airless. The prisoners were glad when the two dilapidated cattle-cars arrived to transport them to their final destinations.

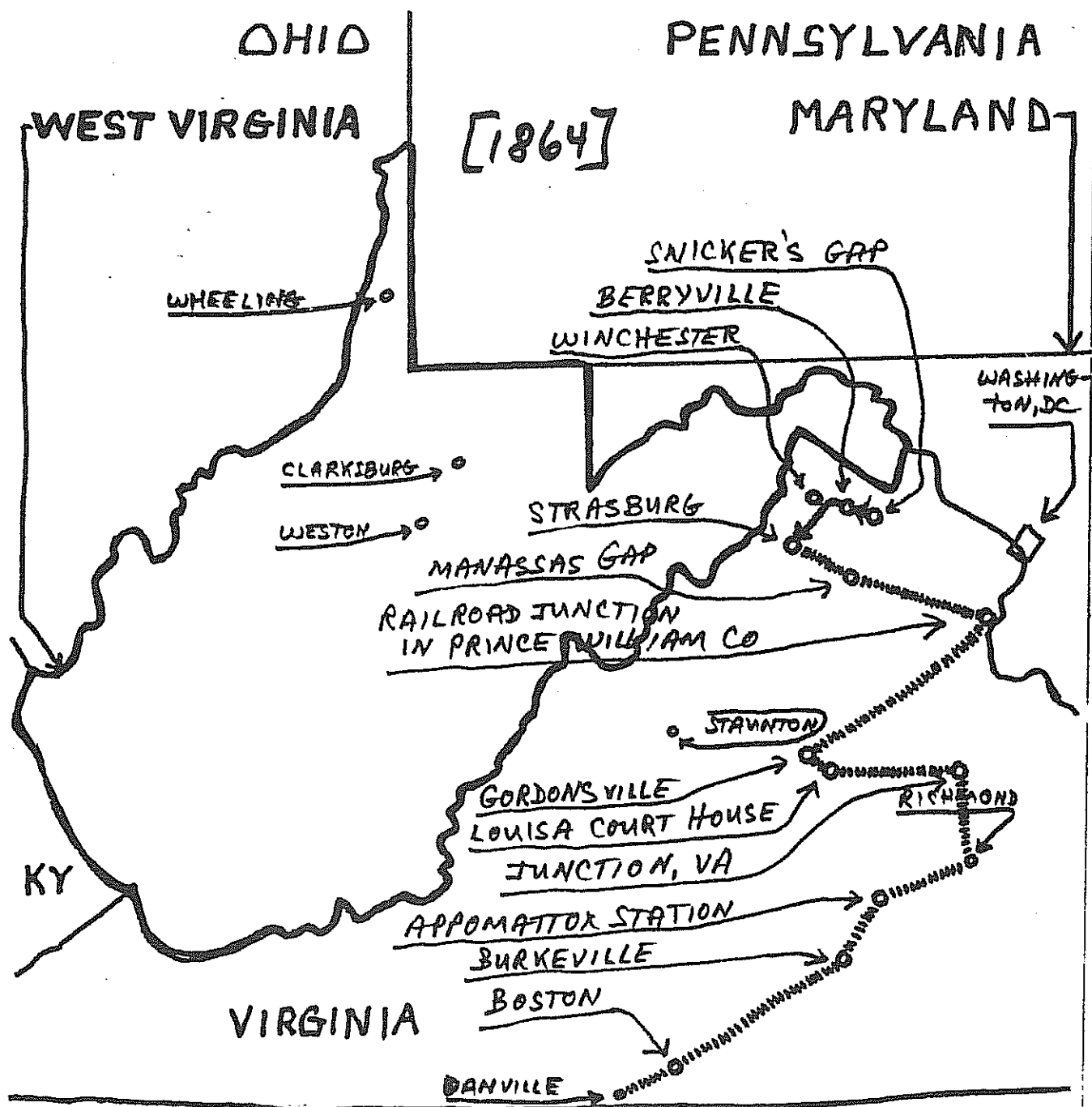
The trip, however, proved to be arduous and no improvement. Each cattle-car held 70 to 80 men, the stench from excrement was inescapably nauseating, there wasn't room for everybody to sit at the same time, the railroad beds were jarringly rough, the speed of the train was slow, often they sat on a siding waiting for more important cargo to use the tracks. Some times the sliding freight-car doors were opened, and the prisoners were allowed to step out into the fields where they were given cornbread and water and a chance to relieve themselves.

Their first leg was on the Manassas Gap Railroad. Up through the Blue Ridge at Manassas Gap, then east into Prince William County where they were attached to another train rolling southwest on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad line. A long bumpy ride (with frequent stoppings) down past Orange Court House to Gordonsville. Again they were transferred into a huge holding-pen building with hundreds of other prisoners -- similar conditions, just more men.

Their third rail-leg was east and slightly south past Louisa Court House on the Virginia Central Railroad. Men were hungry, small wounds went untended, exhaustion was overpowering, stamina and health waned in the sweltering hot stench of their captivity. East to a spot in Hanover County appropriately called Junction. There they were transferred to other similar cars on the Richmond and Potomac Railroad. They wound slowly southward, through a violent rainstorm, to the Capital of the Confederacy, Richmond.

No more makeshift pens for a few hundred prisoners. Thousands of prisoners under heavy guard -- mostly boys, old men and disabled soldiers -- jammed into warehouses adjacent to the rail terminals and switch-yards. Here they were questioned one-by-one, separated into new groupings and their final prison destinations were decided by officers whose front-line activity was no longer possible (partly disabled, amputees, militarily incapable, etc.).

John Theodore Schiefer



Route from John Theodore Schiefer's capture (July 18, 1864) at Snicker's Gap to the Confederate Military Prison at Danville, Pittsylvania Co, VA (arr. approx. July 28, 1864).

NORTH CAROLINA

## John Theodore Schiefer

John Theodore Schiefer was put into a cattle-car heading southwest on the Richmond and Danville Railroad. The last few days of July and the first week of August were murderously hot -- oven-intensity heat, burning sun, no breeze, stifling dust hanging in the air, men dropping from sunstroke. The 145-mile rail line was under heavy usage, requiring frequent sidings -- past Appomattox Station, past Amelia Court House to Burkeville, Nottoway Co. Then down-down-down, past Boston, Halifax Co, into Pittsylvania County and to the old tobacco community of Danville (pop. 6,000) on the bluffs of the Dan River. John Theodore's car was unloaded here, while other continued into North Carolina to Salisbury Prison.

Dr. Robertson, in his Virginia Magazine article, quotes Pvt. William Day (10th WI Inf) with a description of this last rail-leg, Richmond to Danville:

"The trip by rail required 24 hours, since the track was dangerously bad and the locomotives, wheezing steam and burning twice their normal amount of wood, could make barely 12 miles per hour. Each boxcar contained 70 prisoners and 4 guards, and the weight of the cars and their occupants often proved too much of a strain on the engines. Sometimes the track would spread apart. Then we would stop and spike it down and go ahead. At other times the old engine would stop from sheer exhaustion; then we would get out and walk up the grade, then get aboard and away again."

Dr. Robertson goes on:

"Other prisoners looked on the trip with more bitterness. Many remembered receiving neither food nor water during the long ride, and of being jammed into cattle-cars coated with the dung of prior occupants. The hours of bouncing and bumping finally ended as the trains pulled noisily to a stop before the brightly painted Danville Depot. Soldiers numbed by fatigue and hunger descended painfully from the cars to be stared at by a contingent of soldiers and a large crowd of curious townspeople."

The following page is a map showing John Theodore's route from capture at Snicker's Gap to prison at Danville.

\* \* \*

END OF PART XI

(TO BE CONTINUED)

QUERIES

1. 1870 Webster Twp, Taylor Co, WV, census lists George HACKER, ae 26, blacksmith, b Germany, wife Mary, ae 31, b MD, sons John W., ae 2, and Jas T, ae 9/12, both born W.Va. Is Germany an error and they are Lewis County HACKERS? If so, where do they fit? Joy GREGOIRE GILCHRIST, Rt 1 Box 38, Alum Bridge, WV 26321
2. Was told this story when I was young, and forgot names involved. Could have been SNYDER, STUMP, BRANNON, HUGHES line, or possibly others. Near Weston? a family had an inn/tavern. One day while out getting cows, the six or seven children left one of the youonger girls near the road to wait as the hill was too steep for her to climb. She was kidnapped, later given away several times until she eventually lived with a rich family. She always named her dolls after her family. Later years she was found after someone told her family about the dolls while they were staying at the inn. Her name possibly was "Kitty Ann". Help!!!! Patsy GARRETT DAWSON, 1013 Willow, Celina, OH 45822
3. FOR SALE- Reprints of CUNNINGHAM-COSGROVE book, 185 pp, photos and index, soft back, \$25.00 Jan COSGROVE, PO Box 6321, Ocala, FL 32678
4. Need info on pars. & w of Alexander WEST, b 1784 Harrison Co. He m Mary \_\_\_\_\_ and d Roane Co 15 Aug 1858. According to his death record, his death was reported by a son Alexander and the record states his pars. were Alexander and Malina WEST. What other children? Also, need pars. Thomas WEST, b Feb 1793, Harrison Co., died Roane Co, WV 12 May 1883. Last lived with dau Elizabeth andd son-in-law Henry D. ALLEN in 1880 in Curtis Dist. (Reedyville?) Roane Co. Death record says, "born in Harrison Co., parents A. and M. WEST. Are his parents Alexander and Malina (HUGHES?) WEST of West's Fort"? Can anyone verify Thomas m. Elizabeth FLESHER ca 1816 in Meigs Co, OH. and who were his siblings? E. Kent WEST, 620 McCullum Circle, Neptune Beach, FL 32266
5. Seek info on both wives of William LINGER (s of Nicholas and Margaret MC NEMAR LINGER). Was first w Mary BOHEN? William m Frances A. BROWN 4 Nov 1847. Ch. of both marr. Geo. W., Emma, Marshall, Rheabama, Wm. J., Ann, Mary, Sarah A., Susan F., Luther W., Denis L., and Bruce Wm. Barbara Jo RENIKER, RD 4, Box 276B, Paris, TN 38242
6. Seek info on two chil of Isaac and Sarah (SUTTON) COX. Hannah COX m Joseph SMITH and lived nr Bridgeport, WV.

Did they have children? When did Hannah die? Isaac COX Jr m Nancy COBURN and had children: Jonathan COX m Maria FRIEND and Margaret COX m John G. NUTT. Just found these two children in Lewis Co Marriage Bonds and Records, can't find in any census records. Where did they go? Did they have families? Have all other children of Isaac Jr. Algie BAILEY, Rt 8 Box 22, Fairmont, WV 26554

7. Need corr with desc of siblings of Jesse and Mary (JORDAN) CUNNINGHAM of Lewis Co, VA. Susannah m Craven BERRY 1842; Agnes m Washington H. BERRY 1847; Elizabeth m William G. PIERSON 1858; Frances m Patrick CALLAHAN 1858; John J. m Lucy A. CRAIG 1859; Mary A. m Fletcher S. WILSON 1859; Enoch G. m Mary Elizabeth KILEY 1866; Phoebe m ??????. Am willing to share info on CUNNINGHAM & JORDAN families. Need siblings of Aquilla and Catherine (CUNNINGHAM) ROBY m 12 Aug 1799 Bath Co, VA. Lived in Lewis Co, VA 1820. One known child: Peggy ROBY m Joseph B. SMITH 1830 in Lewis Co. Will share info on ROBY and CUNNINGHAM families. Gertrude HERDA, 1223 Cleveland Blvd, Caldwell, ID 83605
8. Seek info or will correspond with persons interested in Cornelius CAIN (1773 - 1850's Gilmer). Who were his par. & siblings? John BROWN m Margaret HAVERTY in Lewis Co 1844. Who was John? What became of John SUDER and his dau. Elizabeth of Lewis Co after 1820? Who were par. of John, Michael and Margaret HAGLE of Lewis Co 1770's? Can anyone locate a copy of the "List of White Men Married to Indian Squaws and Living in Ohio" prepared by Captain Levi MORGAN in the 1790's? Can anyone furnish proof that Paulser BUTCHER of Lewis Co 1800's married Elizabeth BUSH? Seek desc of Jesse and William H. BROWN b 1823 & 1832 respectively in Lewis Co. Can anyone furnish the German village of birth for Henry FLESHER pioneer of Weston? David ARMSTRONG, PO Box 1933, Elkins, WV 26241
9. Seek researchers working on Nicholas CARPENTER-Mary WOLFE line. Sandra L. PRICE, 1022 N. Michigan, South Bend, IN 46617
10. Seek par. John and Jane (GREGG) LEWELLEN. Jane b 1791, d 1852. Son Jeremiah moved to Roane Co 1861 from Monongalia Co. Also need Jeremiah's son, John Wesley LEWELLAN, who lived in Roane in 1910 and by 1917 moved to Michigan. James R. CARPENTER, 4397 Good Rd Rt 1, Seville, OH 44273
11. I need info on Lucinda BARGERHUFF, 2nd wife of William T. SMITH and parents of both. Does anyone know where they were from? Wilma A. NORTHROP, 801 Cost Ave., Stonewood, WV 26301



12. Would like to correspond with anyone interested in BAIRD and THARP names. Adam and Barbara WILHELM BAIRD came from Easton, York Co, PA, c 1818-1820, to Weston. They had eleven chil, b PA & VA: Susan m William LAW, Jr; John; Elijah; Mary m Henry FLESHER; Elizabeth l/m Francis LAW and 2/m John B. FLESHER; William, Adam, three daus. said to have died in VA; and Asa S., who m Sarah Jane THARP and came to Monroe Co, IA, in 1854. Sarah Jane d/o Hezekiah and Huldah (COX) THARP, who came to Van Buren Co, IA, at about the same time, with sons William and Benjamin. Sarah HINDMAN, Rt 3, Albia, Iowa, 52531.
13. Need par of Travis WALKER, b 1786 VA, m Elizabeth, d Jul 1869 Harrison/Lewis Co, bur McWhorter Cem. Known children: William, b 14 Jun 1812, Harrison Co (W)V, l/m Mary Ann STALNAKER and 2/m Eliza J. DAVISSON, Harrison Co, d 25 Jun 1876, Harrison Co; Travis, Jr., b ca 1815, m Lewis Co 8 Apr 1843 Maria NORMAN; Lucinda, b 1827, m 22 Oct 1841 Lewis Co Shadrack J. COTTRILL, d 19 Mar 1852, Lewis Co. At least two daus., b by 1810, are unaccounted for; possibly, two sons, (Henry & James J. ???) were in this family. Please help in some way, if you have WALKER info from Lewis/Harrison Co. Will share all data from 10 yrs research on over 100 surnames.

Wish to correspond w/desc of Lewis Co resident David FOX b ca 1808 Augusta Co, VA, s/o Mathias FOX, Jr. & Margaret ROWH; David & wife, Catherine GABERT, were par of George Franklin FOX who m Mary Elizabeth SPROUSE, my g. grandparents. Still chasing Lewis Co CURTISES, especially Jesse & Nancy, who were p/o David D. CURTIS (11 May 1827-12 Oct 1894) who lived on Walnut Fork. Who were Jesse's parents and what was his wife's maiden name? Patti HICKMAN, Rt 3, Box 239E, Bridgeport, WV 26330

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- \* Past issues of the Hacker's Creek Journal, Volumes I-IX. Issued quarterly by HCPD. Family histories, public records of all types, cemetery listings, queries, etc., pertaining to the history and genealogy of Central West Virginia, with special emphasis of Lewis, Harrison, Upshur, Gilmer, Barbour and Randolph counties. Five parts per volume - four issues and index. At least 200 pages per volume. \$27/volume postpaid for non-members; \$22/volume postpaid for members. Specify volume.
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